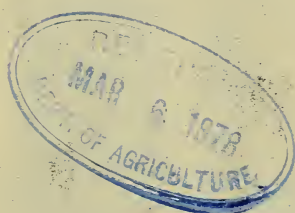
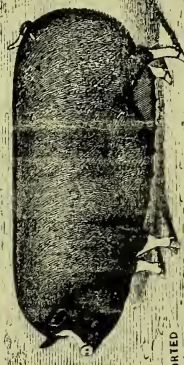
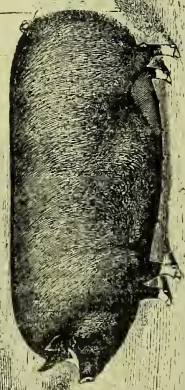
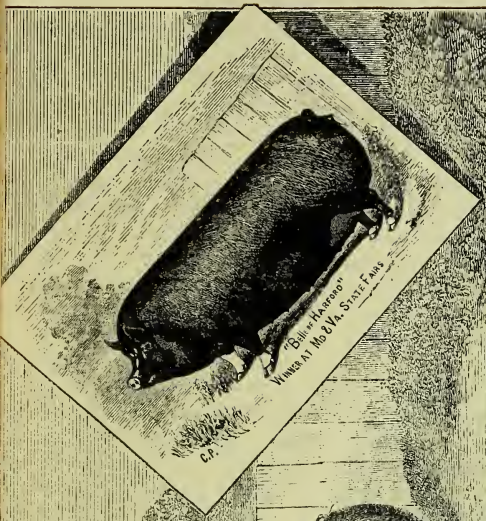
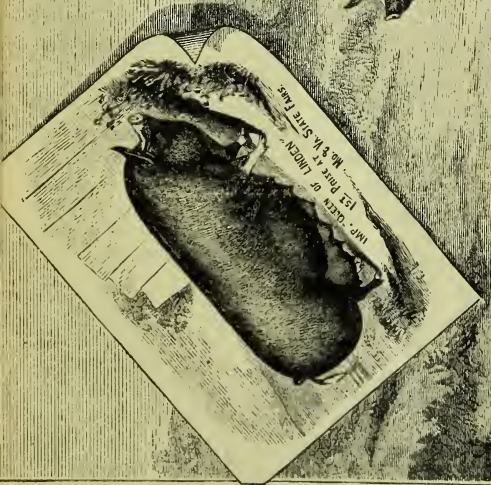


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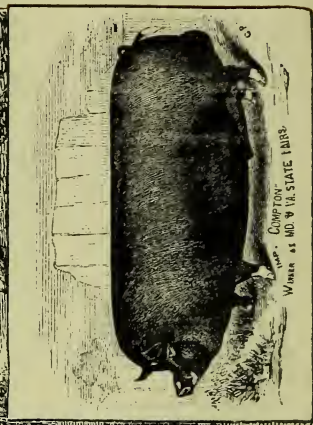
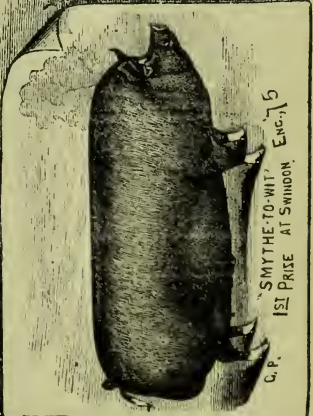


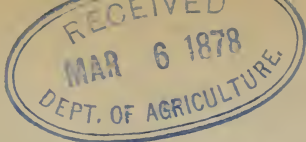




IMPORTED  
LADY PLYMOUTH II  
LADY PLYMOUTH III  
WINNERS AT THE CENTENNIAL

ALEX. M. FULFORD  
BREEDER  
OF  
BERKSHIRES  
MD.  
ALL COMING FROM LIFE  
BY  
C. PALMER





THE

## MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

Vol. XV. BALTIMORE, FEBRUARY, 1878. No. 2.

**Legislation wanted for Relief of the Farmers and Planters.**

The Legislature of Maryland, now in session at Annapolis, should and no doubt will prove itself of vast importance to that portion of the people of Maryland, who are the sinew and back-bone of the power and wealth of the State, and the main prop on which all and every avocation of the people rest for protection, support and the direct or indirect help to the prosperity of their respective callings and employment. whether of high or low degree.

It is confidently expected from our legislators, that laws of a stringent character will be passed, to prevent the influx of the army of tramps, who annoy, alarm, and inconvenience our citizens daily, to whose account are placed many thefts, burnings by design or carelessness, outrages against the helpless and villainous insults toward women, whom they find alone and unprotected. Hale and hearty men, by the hundreds, are daily wandering over the country like numerous wolves, and alarm or do worse, the women and children when their husbands, fathers or brothers are away from home honestly toiling to support their families.

**PUBLIC ROADS:**—It is the crying shame of many, if not most, of the counties of Maryland, that the public roads are in such horrid condition, and that the bridges are unsafe and dangerous. Under a system like that of New England, with half the annual outlay, our public roads could be made equal to turnpikes, and our bridges made safe and durable.

We shall, in our next number, discuss the Road, question and the township plan more fully, as we are now pressed for room.

**TOBACCO INSPECTIONS.**—We have several times given our views in regard to tobacco inspections, and are glad to see that Gov. Carroll coincides with us. We only here say, that if the state inspection is to be continued, the salaries of the inspectors

should be reduced to \$1500, per annum. Formerly when more, and as good, if not better, work was done, the inspectors received \$1200, and after a time \$1500. We think the pay of the clerks and hands should not be reduced, or only in a slight degree. If there be reduction in that line, let it be in the number and not in the compensation.

A law for the protection of sheep, should be passed. Thousands of sheep, producing millions or revenue would be raised in Maryland, if there was some safety for these harmless, yet valuable animals, provided by stringent, operative laws against their natural enemy—the dog.

We are almost in despair, that any satisfactory law will be passed, as we have labored earnestly for years, in giving statistics, pointing out the advantages of such laws, arguing as to its enormous benefits, its perfect constitutionality; its absolute necessity if we wish the prosperity of our people; and the benefits which have resulted in other states and in Europe.

**TAXING MORTGAGES.**—We are clearly satisfied that it is to the interest of borrowers, at this time, much the larger class of our population, that mortgages should not be taxed. It is clear to our mind that the higher the tax on capital, the higher will be the premium and interest, to be paid by the borrower, and gigantic hardships will follow upon those whose property is already mortgaged, by foreclosures of mortgages now due. Speculating money lenders will make it a pretext to foreclose and buy in property at an enormous sacrifice to get their money; many a farm worth \$10,000 will be sold in six months after the passage of such an act, for \$2,000, or the borrower will have to pay the tax in addition to the already crushing interest he is paying. We fear our State Grange did not well consider this matter. It was composed of some of the soundest judging men in the state, yet often the wisest and best are in fault, for the want of proper reflection upon, and full discussion of the merits of a question. It is certain that money

will seek investment, in loans on mortgage, where there is the least legal impediments and fewest draw-backs, to the ease of its recovery when due, and when its interest is untaxed. And it follows as a *sequitur*, that where there is the largest amount of money for loan, there will be less *bonus* and interest demanded. Money is like all articles of merchandise or trade. High prices are consequent upon depletion in the market of any one article, as low prices follow a market overstocked. The law of supply and demand regulates the price of money as in everything else in commerce. Hence, without entering upon facts and argument at this time, we conclude after mature reflection, that greater the encouragements and inducements offered capital, is the best policy for the interest of borrowers. Induce the capitalists to unlock their coffers and money will soon be plenty and be begging for investments. A farm mortgaged for \$10,000, is taxed, and the mortgage is taxed, hence, the property pays double tax. You might as well tax the capital stock of a bank, and then also tax every note issued on the faith of that stock.

It may well be supposed that after alluding to and giving our views about the tramp and road questions, we should suggest some plan to carry out the views we have expressed.

We think the best and simplest way will be to adopt the New England system, which has worked so well for years, or one on a similar plan. It is only this; divide the counties into townships or small districts, say on an average of 5 miles square. Each township to have its own roads, schools and vagrants under its own control. The District courts' expenses, the jail, bridges between counties adjoining, to be paid for by a general tax on the property of the whole county.

As to the prerogatives and duties of the several townships or districts, we have not the space to enter into detail, but refer our legislators and all others interested to the Revised Statutes of Maine for 1857, and the subsequent laws passed relating to this subject. As we consider the township system of Maine, one of the best, being nearly similar to that of its mother state Massachusetts, we wrote to a valued friend upon these subjects, and he says, each township elects its own collector, who collects also the state and county taxes and the township tax, and after the township is taxed for the state and county, it has to pay for its own expenses.

"Take for instance our town of Winthrop, our state tax say \$5,000, county tax \$3,000, and what the

people in public meeting or election, determine to raise for schools, paupers, highways and other necessary expenses may be \$4,000, all together and assessed on estates, property and inhabitants of the town, say \$12,000 on about \$1,000,000 and our rate of per centage, usually is from 15 to 20 mills on the dollar, which when collected is immediately paid over into the state, county and town treasuries".

Each township, has its town farm, corresponding with our poor houses, and where all the decrepid, poor and partially disabled, unable to earn a living are comfortably fed, lodged and clothed, and made to employ themselves according to their abilities in such work as will be most remunerative and suitable to their age, condition, health, etc. Of this institution in connection with the tramp, our correspondent thus speaks: "In relation to the tramp question, we are nearly as much troubled in Maine as you are. In 1876, the legislature enacted a law to arrest them and have them sentenced to the work-house or town farm, but very few arrests are made in the country, and in the cities they are stowed into the lock-up, fed, and discharged in the morning to tramp to another place. The question is raised here, that a law restraining any one's liberty—when he has committed no crime, save to walk about and ask for food, is unconstitutional, and hence the law has become a dead letter. I do not see why it may not be enforced, and why vagrancy is not a crime; but when the public sentiment does not sustain the law, it becomes ineffectual and had better not be on the statute books. (Vagrancy is, in Maryland, a misdemeanor, and punishable by imprisonment in jail or in the work-house or House of Correction.—ED. MD. FAR.) I learn that there are lots of tramps sent to or go to the Town Farm. They are kept over night and sent on their way in the morning. *Our farm is a great saving. Folks do not like to stop there long who are obliged to work.* We have but two or three paupers there now, I understand,—whereas we formerly had, under the old system, fifteen or twenty to support. The Town Farm just about pays its running expenses. Towns are authorized by the State to establish them." Only two or three paupers in the asylum for the poor, in a town where the property is assessed at \$1,000,000! Reason obvious—*they are required to work.* Tramps are made to feel that it is better to work for fair wages than to work only for clothes and board.

"CLARA," asked Tom, "what animal dropped from the clouds?" "The rain, dear," was the reply.

For the *Maryland Farmer*.

### Loomis Combination Level.

EDITORS MARYLAND FARMER:—

Solely with a view to benefit the public interest, I give you my views of a new instrument lately advertised in your magazine.

Having obtained one of the "Loomis Combination Levels," and thoroughly tested it, I am able to state that it is sufficiently accurate to be used on all such work as determining the fall of streams, mill races, ditches, etc., and also in determining the height of embankments for miniature lakes, ponds, and abutments of bridges, grading turn-pikes, county roads, and in many other ways too numerous to mention. As a carpenters' level, it is one of the best of the kind now made; and I am satisfied that all farmers, road supervisors and contractors would find the "Loomis Combination Level" an indispensable article after having used it a short time. Its combination easily understood, its use and value readily seen at a moment's inspection, and its price extraordinarily low, should certainly render the instrument an object largely sought after by the above mentioned classes. For myself, I can simply say that now I have one, I would not be without it willingly for the length of a day.

Respectfully yours.

R. A. BOWIE,  
*Civil Engineer.*

### Free Distribution of Brook Trout.

During the last season, Mr. T. B. Ferguson, Fish Commissioner of Maryland, distributed a large number of brook trout to persons wishing to stock ponds or streams. The distribution will continue this season. In a circular on the subject, received a few days ago, the commissioner says:

"All citizens of the State wishing trout, to stock waters of the State, can get them, free of charge, on application at Druid Hill hatching-house, on and after January 15. This distribution will be gratuitous; but the fish Commission cannot either undertake to furnish vessels for transportation or meet any of the expenses of their transfer from the hatching-house to the localities for which they may be destined. Persons making application must take to the hatching-house with them vessels in which to remove the fish. Ordinary milk cans are very suitable, and a five gallon can will hold about as many hundred trout. The young fish should be deposited as near the head of the stream as possible, and the deposit be made after dark, if practicable. This enables them to become accustomed to the water and find hiding places during the night, when most of the larger fish do not feed. The employees of the commission, in charge of the hatching-house, will be furnished with blank receipts, on which must be stated the stream in which the fish are to be deposited by the person making application."

Every county in the State feels the growing decrease of fish in the large as well as small streams. Once was the time when fish in our rivers was so abundant that farmers were *given* loads to fertilize their lands, and now the fishermen do not pay expenses. On every small stream the angler, boy or man, could profitably wile away an hour in old Walton's pursuit. Now, hardly a mountain creek or glade rivulet will furnish a bite in an hour or two, and, when answered, it is the nibble of a minnow.

Some suggest suspension of seine-hauling for three years. It would appear to be a good suggestion. If we go on with the big seines for a few years more, we shall catch all the fish of any size and destroy millions of young fish and dislodge and ruin the stream. All the efforts of fish commissioners will be of none effect, unless some restrictions are put upon seine-hauling, gill-netting, &c., and our whole people interest themselves in seeing that the laws are faithfully carried out and that small streams be protected after the young fish be put in them.

There is hardly a farmer of 100 acres in Maryland that has not a suitable place, at small expense, to form a fine fish pond, which can now be stocked at only the expense of transportation of the young fish. What a valuable acquisition a well-stocked fish pond would be to a farm! What pleasure and profit it would be to the owner! Farmers, think of it.

REMARKABLY MILD WEATHER.—Ripe peaches in open air in Pennsylvania at Christmas, 1852, and strawberries in Maryland in December, 1877!

The Harrisburg (Penn.) *Telegraph* of the 24th inst. says: "Discussing the balmy weather of this winter, a gentleman, well known in Harrisburg as one of our oldest and most successful business men, now located on Third street, stated to us this morning that he plucked peaches on a tree on his premises on Christmas day, 1852, and served them as part of the dessert for the dinner on the occasion. Gen. Cameron, if he reads this paragraph, will recall the incident, as he ate a portion of the fruit and also examined the tree, on the day referred to, which contained it. This is an incident of past propitious winter weather, and has not often been surpassed in the fruit line in this latitude."

This eclipses rather the fine, ripe strawberries of friend Hyde, of Boothby Hill, Harford county, Md., which he gathered on his grounds late in December, and which graced the tables of Rennert's hotel, in this city. We give these facts to prove that seasons, like history, repeat their incidents.—*Editors Md. Farmer*

## *Agricultural Calendar.*

### FARM WORK FOR FEBRUARY.

Although it is too soon for active farm operations as to planting, sowing, etc., in many States, yet in all parts of the Country, there is much to engage the attention of the farmer and planter, and much work to be done by farm hands. Ice is perhaps, to be secured; provender hauled and corn shelled for market; wood and fencing stuff to be cut for next year, as it is hoped that that the plan of cutting one winters supply of fuel for the next is generally adopted; as it has so often been shown that dry wood is far more economical, and gives more comfort by its heat, than green wood. There are other matters which we will suggest as proper to be attended to under the proper headings. But before we touch upon our regular calendar, let us suggest that now is the time to open your farm account books, and order your Fertilizers and seeds—grass seeds, oats and corn, so as to be ready at the moment when your judgment tells you the weather and condition of the ground, and the time all are suited for sowing or planting them to do so.

Lay in all the implements you may want during the year, and this want can only be known fully by a rigid examination of all the tools and implements you have. If any want repairing, let it be done at once, and you will have them ready when wanted. It is a saving of time when you send to the market, or railroad, corn or bailed hay, to bring back seeds, fertilizers, salt, plaster and implements.

Do not neglect to collect all the refuse stuff and leaves, wood's earth, turf from the fence corners, ditch banks, etc., from time to time, to mix with your manures from the stable and thus keep by absorbing the liquid voidings, the barn yard dry, and your stock from being filthy with the soft wet manure that accumulates in winter, and is so offensive to the eye, and so uncomfortable and unhealthy to the stock.

#### TOBACCO.

Every opportunity, of course, will be embraced to prepare tobacco for market, and if the weather should be mild and the ground be in good order, sow about half the seed you intend to sow for your crop, reserving the balance to sow next month.

#### STOCK OF ALL KINDS.

Keep all well housed at night and during bad weather, and let them have plenty of hay or fodder besides straw, with sufficiency of crushed or whole grain. See that they have plenty of pure

water, and salt with occasionally some hickory ashes in their chopped or ground grain or oats. If at any time they seem hide-bound give a teaspoonful of saltpetre in a mash, or when there is constipation, give flax-seed scalded or uncooked, one pint each day in a warm mash of scalded oats or bran. The feed also, carrots, or apples or some green food. Keep their coats clean and smooth, by using the currycomb, card or brush, or if neither can be used sprinkle dry sand or earth on the backs of cattle freely. This course will keep them clear of manure.

HOGS—Have the hogs dry, warm and clean all the time, with plenty of food to keep them in good condition, and plenty of material to induce them to exercise in turning it over and converting it into manure. To induce them to exercise, sprinkle over the mass of straw, weeds, earth, etc., a little corn or other enticing food. They will work over the mass faithfully as often as some grain is slightly scattered over. Remember to give them small quantities of salt often in their swill, food or water, and let them have access to rotten wood or charcoal, the latter is best.

The hog is very profitable, and every farmer should raise more pork than he wants for his own use. Home cured bacon is sweeter than most we can purchase. Pork can now be raised cheaper than it can be bought. People talk of hard times and have every facility to raise \$300 or \$500 worth of bacon, neglect to do it, and sell their whole grain crop to buy what they otherwise could have at small cost. Our fathers did better; they raised or grew on their farms, all they consumed as far as was possible. They clad themselves with their own grown wool, hemp and cotton; furnished the meats; beef, pork, bacon and mutton, vegetables, milk and butter from their own farms. They were no grumblers as to taxes, hard times, etc., but were independent because they lived within themselves.

SHEEP—We refer our young and old farmers who keep sheep to the admirable communication in this number of the FARMER, on winter care of sheep, by our greatly esteemed and venerable friend Col. Ware of Va., who was the pioneer in Virginia in importing the best bloods to elevate the value of that animal, and in this respect was to his State, what Clay was to Kentucky by introducing the system of rearing mules, which added millions to the aggregate wealth of the people of that State and extended its influence over the Union.

#### WINTER PLOWING.

Let us urge you to take advantage of every opportunity, when the ground is not too wet, to plow

all the stiff land you intend for crops in the spring, that the frost may pulverize it. If the bottom of the furrow is a hard pan of clay, difficult for the percolation of water, and excluding aeration, then by all means use the sub-soil plow in each furrow. This secures all, and more, than deep plowing could do. Deep plowing is well enough where the rich soil is a foot deep, but shallow plowing, if the mould is shallow, and deeply loosening the poor clay sub-stratum is far better, and at a cost of only a trifle more. The rich vegetable mold will thus be kept near the surface where nature intends it, while the sub-soil will be stirred 10 inches deep, to pass off excess of water, and promote moisture when drought comes on. There is no work on the farm, which requires the close attention of the master, or more judgment on his part than *plowing*; the time, state of ground, its character, the depth, the placing of the furrows—all are subject to change according to the differences existing in these conditions. The success of any crop depends mainly upon how the land was prepared for its reception. Some plants require a deep, loose, rich soil, others a well prepared surface resting on rather firm bottom.

#### SOWING CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS.

If there comes a light snow, and it is likely to melt directly, sow clover seeds; but we prefer to sow grass seeds as soon as it is dry enough to harrow the seed in, and follow directly with the roller. The harrow and roller do the small grain and the seeds both infinite good.

#### PLASTER AND SALT,

By all means let us advise you to sow plaster this month over your grain and clover fields, and if you can, sow 3 to 5 bushels of salt, mixed with the plaster or unmixed, per acre. It is very generally admitted by the best practical farmers, that plaster, at the rate of one bushel per acre, is better sown in winter than in spring. It takes a long time to dilute, and much water, and the more time it has to attract the ammonia floating in the air, the better it is for the tender plants, to push forth vigorous growth in early spring.

#### ORCHARDS.

Go over your orchards, saw off all dead or broken limbs, an inch into the sound wood. cover the place with clay or cow manure, or a plaster of rosin beeswax and tallow, equal parts, warm and spread on coarse cotton cloth. Thin the wood if too thick, prune into shape, but prune not severely apple trees; peach trees, shorten the new growth one-third. Paint the bodies with a wash of 1 gallon soft soap, 1 quart of salt,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of sulphur, 1 quart

of unleached ashes, reduced to the consistency of thick white wash; use a white wash brush or piece of sheep skin nailed to a stick, wool outside; apply this wash not only to the bodies, but as high up among the limbs as you can reach.

If your orchard is a young one, or an unthrifty old one, plow the land, manure it well around the trees as far as you think the roots extend, and harrow with a light harrow as often as necessary to keep down the weeds. We believe in keeping an orchard well cultivated and manured as we do a corn crop, though it need not be so often as corn. If the trees are very young, some hoed crops might be cultivated between the rows. If the apple be bearing, then sow orchard grass, and top dress annually with some manure or fertilizer. It would furnish a good hay crop annually, also early spring and late fall pasturage for sheep and colts and calves, or mares with young colts.

Trees should be planted not only by dwelling-houses and along roads, but they should be in every pasture and by watering places, and near every barn, wherever cattle, horses or sheep are to be provided for. All these animals suffer from our burning sun; and to say nothing of their comfort and enjoyment, the cost of shade trees will be many times paid back in the saving of the milk, fat, fleece and strength, which will result by protecting domestic animals from the heat of the sun.

ATTENTION.—The wheat crop of Iowa, this year, is estimated to be worth \$37,000,000. and the yield of pork \$30,000,000, which, if equally distributed, would allow each family in the State over \$1,000. The times generally in the West never looked more encouraging. Still we do not recommend our dissatisfied agricultural readers to "Go West," who have not been as successful as they think they should have been in this State, Delaware, New Jersey, or Maryland, as we believe that the opportunities for making the field and garden profitable are just as good here as in any other portion of the Union. Within forty miles of Philadelphia are many hundreds who have become wealthy from the sale of the products of their farms, and who never fail to raise remunerative crops. These are encouraging examples.—*Ger. Tel.*

The same can be said of the advantages of Baltimore county and the counties adjoining and in its propinquity. No better market gardens or truck farm with similar advantages are to be found in the world than in Baltimore county, Montgomery, and in the southern portion of the State—as well, also, most of the Eastern Shore counties of Maryland.

## GARDEN WORK.

### GARDEN WORK FOR FEBRUARY.

Not much is absolutely required in the garden this month. The cold frames are to be attended to, and new ones made if deemed necessary. The garden-beds, if the ground is in order, may be heavily manured and deeply spaded. Pea-brush, bean poles, trellises for tomatoes, cucumbers, nasturtiums, &c., should be prepared; manure and rich earths hauled in and put in compost heaps with plaster and salt—and often turned to intermix and be ready for use. South of Maryland, hot beds may be made, and lettuce, early sorts of cabbage, egg-plant, peppers, &c., be sown; the same may be done in Maryland if there be provided cold frames to set the plants in, when they get large enough in the hot bed to be set 2 or 3 inches apart in the cold frames, to get stocky and good roots, by the time they can be safely set out in open ground.

**CELERY.**—A warm border may be enriched by well rotted manure, nicely prepared and sowed with celery seed and a few radishes, then lightly raked and patted with the hoe or spade, and covered with brush, to have early radish, and for the early crop of celery.

**PEAS, ONION SEED, CARROTS AND BEETS.**—May be sown if the weather is fit and the ground free from frost and dry enough, any time during the month, for an early supply of these vegetables. Peas should be sown 3 or four inches deep, the others 1 inch deep and slightly pressed or patted with the back of the hoe or rake to close the earth about them. If severe weather should appear, cover them well with straw or leaves, with brush on top to prevent them from blowing away.

**SPINACH.**—Toward the close of the month, the ground being in order, sow a few drills of this delightful vegetable in rich, well prepared soil.

**CORN-SALAD.**—This excellent salad may be sown in like manner as spinach. Those who have never eaten this salad will, upon trying it once, never again be without it every winter and spring. As fond as we are of loaf-lettuce, we often hesitate in choosing between it and corn-salad. The latter can be sown from September until March or April for a succession; it is perfectly hardy, easily raised and yields well. If sown thick, thin it out as you want it. It is delicate in taste, and wholesome. Dress it as lettuce. A third portion of water cress mixed with corn-salad—some think improves it, by adding a more pungent and decided flavor to the salad.

**GRAPES.**—Trim and tie up grape-vines any time this month, work up the earth about them, use some well rotted manure and mulch with coal-ashes 3 inches deep for a circle of two feet in diameter around each vine. If no coal-ashes, woods earth and leaves together will answer a good purpose.

**RASPBERRIES.**—May be thinned, shortened and tied to trellises or stakes, manure the ground, work it well, and give a thick mulch of straw.

**RHUBARB.**—Cover the plants 6 inches deep with coarse, strawy, stable manure and set a barrel or box over such plants as you may wish to force into early growth, and you will have fine well blanched, very early rhubarb.

### Extracts from Gov. Carroll's able Message.

We make a few extracts from the able and comprehensive message of Governor Carroll to the Legislature of Maryland, at its session for 1878.

These passages are taken because they are in accord with our views, and we think, are more intimately connected with the interest of farmers, than any other subjects, so ably and succinctly discussed by his Excellency. If our room allowed, we would publish the entire document, because it well deserves perusal by all who feel an interest in what concerns the general status of the affairs of the State, and the welfare of her citizens.

#### AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

"The present administration of the Agricultural college has succeeded in placing this institution upon a more favorable footing than it has ever held from the date of its foundation. For years past the indebtedness had been constantly increasing, although the appropriation from the state was large and finally the college became so thoroughly discredited that its students were greatly reduced, and the prospect was very discouraging for its continuance. The administration of its affairs was, however, changed by the board of trustees, and the energy and careful management of its present officers soon restored confidence and credit. In the short space of two years the entire debt of \$13,274 33 has been paid off, the college being sustained in the meantime by the fees of the students, repairs to the amount of \$2,500 to \$3,000 have been put upon the farmhouses, the land has been greatly improved, the standard of education made higher, and the number of students considerably increased."

"With the absolute freedom from debt which the college now enjoys, it will be seen that the greater part of the state appropriation may be applied to the agricultural department, and other useful purposes, and it is hoped that a career of prosperity is opened, to which the farmers of Maryland may lend their support. Some opposition has been expressed throughout the state, that special students were prepared for the Naval Academy, and this was justly held to be no part of the purpose for

which the college was founded. It must be noted, however, that these students were only taken to aid in relieving the college of its heavy burden of debt, and now that it is entirely free, at the end of the current term the students will all be placed upon an equality as to pay and treatment."

#### TOBACCO WAREHOUSES AND INSPECTIONS.

"The act of 1876, chapter 316, authorized and directed the board of public works, the attorney general and the supervisor of warehouses to "rebuild one of the tobacco warehouses which was burned in the city of Baltimore." The sum of \$59,000 was appropriated for this purpose. After due advertisement the bids were opened and the contract was on the 1st day of June, 1876, awarded to Messrs. Ogle & Townsend for \$39,000, they being the lowest bidders. Subsequent examination satisfied the board that certain changes in the original plan would give greater accommodation and capacity, so it was determined to make two houses with a solid wall dividing them, affording a capacity for 5,000 hogsheads each."

"The total length of the building is 330 feet by 126 feet wide, four stories high, with a capacity of 10,000 hogsheads of tobacco. The changes adopted added considerably to the cost, while they made the building far more desirable, and the whole work was completed and occupied on the 1st day of April at a total cost of \$56,189 78, which was \$3,345 22 less than the amount of insurance money paid into the treasury of the state. The report of operations from all the tobacco warehouses has been somewhat more satisfactory during the past two years. There have been fewer complaints against the inspection than usual, and the sums of money returned to the treasury show that the officers in charge of the warehouses have performed their duties."

Receipts for 1876.....	\$139,354 88
Balance for 1875.....	2,053 70
<b>Total receipts.....</b>	<b>\$141,408 08</b>
<b>Expenditures.....</b>	<b>118,787 81</b>
<b>Net earnings for 1876.....</b>	<b>\$22,620 27</b>
Receipts for 1877.....	\$106,477 85
Balance for 1876.....	9,433 90
	<b>\$118,911 75</b>
<b>Expenditures.....</b>	<b>102,226 39</b>
	<b>\$16,685 36</b>
<b>Total net earnings for two years....</b>	<b>\$39,305 63</b>

"The above figures will show that during the past two years all the expenditures, including the salaries of the inspectors, amounting to \$15,000 a year, have been paid, and a considerable balance left in the treasury. The objections that have usually presented themselves to my mind in reference to the general subject of compulsory inspection apply with far greater force to the inspection of tobacco, under the existing provisions of the law, than to any other class of cases, because the field of operations is larger and the vicious effects of the system are extended over a very wide branch of the industry of the state."

"The tendency of modern laws has been to oppose any interference with the business interests of the community, to sever the government as far as possible from the private concerns of individuals, and to leave men free to act in all commercial

transactions as their judgment direct, subject only to such regulations as are intended to prevent imposition or fraud. It has come to be admitted by those whose ideas are most in advance in our business centres, that the value of an article of trade must always rest upon its intrinsic merits, and the moment the law intervenes and declares who shall proclaim the valuable qualities of any particular commodity, a false standard is liable to be raised, thus impairing the credit which it is the interest of the community to maintain. We find, in the great metropolis, New York, where commerce and the laws that regulate it are most carefully studied, that every effort has been made to leave trade as unfettered as possible, and active competition recognized as the only incentive that can be given to business men to secure to the public the most efficient service. They have gone so far in that state as to declare by constitutional enactment that the Legislature shall pass no law involving the compulsory inspection of any article, thus recognizing in the most effectual manner the principle of non-interference."

"The abolition of the flour-inspection laws of this state in 1870 was certainly a step in advance, and I am sure there is no interest in our city that would seek to re-establish them. The prominent evil of our present system of tobacco inspection is its compulsory feature. Can any one imagine a greater restriction upon the healthy action of trade than that the law should compel the inspection of any article, without further regard to the fitness of the inspectors than that which is implied by the general duty of the executive, who makes the appointments? Suppose that from causes which he was not able to control a set of incompetent inspectors were selected, are we to be told that it is good policy for the law to compel the producers of one of our staple products to submit to the depreciation of their property which must follow from such an agency? When a man is deprived by law of the power of selecting his own agents in the disposition of his property, surely a great injustice is done him; but a still greater wrong is inflicted when that law compels him to accept the services of one in whom he or the public may have no confidence; and yet this is the condition of things that may arise under our present system."

"The very essence of prosperous trade is its freedom, and if men are prevented by law from selecting their own agents, and compelled to accept those who are appointed by others, a great element is wanting to the prosperity of any branch which suffers from this anomaly. The tobacco inspector in this state is practically of no use, except as a medium of sale, which the law compels the planter to accept. He does not guarantee either the quality of the tobacco nor the manner in which the hogshead is packed. He only draws a sample, which is supposed to represent the hogshead, and in case it does, there is no convenient reclamation upon any one."

"I do not propose here to discuss at length the great burdens which the present system imposes upon the grower; every one familiar with the subject well knows what its general management is, how great is the expense attending it, and how heartily glad the community would be to welcome a change, if it could be properly accommodated or

the interest of the planter. It is believed that if a voluntary or licensed system of inspection could be substituted for that which is now regulated by the state, the standard\* of Maryland tobacco would be higher in the market, because of the additional security and value that the guarantee of private inspectors would afford. To this guarantee of the inspectors would probably soon be added that of the commission merchant, and we can easily imagine what value and credit would then be given to the samples."

"The difficulty has always been to inaugurate such a system, and at the same time to continue the ownership of the state in the warehouses. If these two elements could be combined, it appears to me that the change might readily be made. The important question is, how can this be satisfactorily accomplished? We know that in the great states of Ohio and Kentucky the compulsory state system at one time prevailed, but it has long since given place to free inspection to the satisfaction of both buyer and seller; and even in Virginia, where state inspection dates back to colonial days, it is apparently about to be swept from the statute books forever. In Kentucky, where the crop averages about 100,000 hogsheads a year, the samples are guaranteed by the inspectors, and the cost to the planter is \$2 per hogshead, one per cent. commission for selling, with free storage for four months."

"I recommend, therefore, that this subject be most carefully considered by your honorable body, with a view of leasing the warehouses under such restrictions as would carefully guard the interests of the planter. He would thus be insured a prompt and efficient inspection by such agents as he might select, the standard of his product would be elevated, and while the public would be relieved of an element of discontent and political annoyance, Maryland would be placed in accord with other states upon the modern and more advanced ideas of trade: I am fully aware that this subject presents many difficulties and that there may be great opposition to the suggestions offered above, but I am also convinced that if our present system of tobacco inspection is false and subject to abuses, there is no prospect of its improvement under the present laws, and that sooner or later the proper remedies will be applied."

\*See letter from board of trade of Bremen, in appendix.

#### TOBACCO INSPECTION.

The following letter, from the president of the board of trade of Bremen, on the subject of tobacco inspection, will be read with interest:

"BREMEN, October 18, 1877.—*His Excellency John Lee Carroll, Governor of Maryland*—SIR: The board of trade of Bremen most respectfully begs leave to call the attention of your excellency to the serious faults of the Baltimore inspection, with the hope, as all other efforts have proved vain, through the direct interposition of the government of the state an improvement of the system may be obtained. The complaints of the tobacco merchants of this city in regard to the decreasing trustworthiness of the inspection samples of American tobacco have so increased during the last ten years that for some time past the board of trade has best wed much attention to this subject. But as long as the hope could be entertained that the initiative steps to a reform would be taken by

those most concerned, the board has confined itself to keeping informed of the efforts made in that direction, and when possible assisting them. It has been strengthened in this course by the satisfactory results which have been attained in most of the American tobacco inspections through these private efforts, and can say with much satisfaction that since during the past year the inspection in New Orleans has been regulated by a code of "Rules and Regulations" agreed upon by the tobacco buyers and sellers there, with one single exception, in all the tobacco markets of the United States those interested can recover from the inspectors the full amount of any loss occasioned to them through their negligent or faulty inspection."

"Baltimore furnishes this single exception, and as the only visible cause why there, as in other places, the efforts of the merchants toward reform have not been successful, it is asserted that the Baltimore tobacco inspection is a state institution. Instead, however, of honoring this position by the observance of their duties, the Baltimore inspectors, as we cannot conceal from your excellency, occasion more numerous and more legitimate complaints in regard to their carelessness in the drawing of samples than any other inspections in the United States have ever done. And since it has as yet been found impossible, in spite of all efforts, to recover damages from the Baltimore inspectors, a redress through private influences is no longer to be thought of. The board of trade deems it scarcely necessary to remind your excellency of the inevitable results of such a damaging state of affairs, but it can only assert that those most deeply interested in the tobacco trade are thoroughly convinced that to this untrustworthy inspection is mainly due the frequent false packing practiced by the farmers, by which a death-blow is given to the German market for one of the most important products of the state of Maryland. In fact, instead of the system of state inspection exerting a stimulating influence upon the raising of tobacco, as no doubt was originally intended, exactly the contrary has been the result. But, in the opinion of this board, the evil influence of this system does not cease here. With the favorable geographical position of Baltimore, and its intimate relations with Bremen—the greatest tobacco market of Europe—with the well-known enterprise of its superior facilities, a constantly increasing movement of the western tobacco crops by way of Baltimore, and the establishment there of an independent market for the same, would be a certainty, if the samples from its inspection could be relied upon equally with those of New York, Brooklyn, New Orleans, Richmond, or even those of the interior markets, such as Louisville, Clarksville or Cincinnati. The board of trade believes that it should refrain from more definite suggestions as to the manner in which this reform in the tobacco inspection should be made, so that the same confidence could be placed in its inspected samples here as is accorded to those similar institutions in the other American cities, to the great benefit of commerce. It trusts itself to the means of knowledge at the disposal of your excellency, and confines itself to the request that the needed reforms may be undertaken without delay.

With great respect, for the board of trade,  
J. ALDERS, President."

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

## NORTHEAST GEORGIA.

BY JAMES T. POWELL.

### JUSTICE.

In no section of the country will a better and more law abiding set of people be found, than in Northeast Georgia. Our courts are presided over by able, experienced and impartial judges, and every facility is afforded to those who "go to law against their neighbor," to deal out even justice to all, "without regard to color, race or previous condition," or any other influence. We have our justices courts, our notaries public, our county courts, our Superior courts and our Supreme courts, which keep the "wheels of law well greased," and deal out "evenhanded" justice to all alike. While we have a fair sprinkling of the legal profession, to defend or prosecute those who have the misfortune to fall in the "clutches of the law.

### Soil.

The soil is diversified, some portions being sandy soil, while others are a rich clay soil, besides a large quantity of bottom land, with an alluvial soil, thus affording an opportunity to the farmer for raising all of the various crops usually grown in the temperate zone, while many of those found nearer the torrid and frigid zones may be grown almost to perfection. The great majority of our lands, however, are sandy loam, with clay subsoil, and are susceptible, in a wonderful degree, of improvement by manuring. This has been abundantly evidenced by our people, during the past few years. In many instances, by the judicious use of manures, lands have been made to produce double and treble their usual crops. It is not an unusual thing for two or more crops to be grown on the same field in one year.

### Capacity of Soil, under Improved Culture.

Perhaps no soil will show better results, or pay a larger per cent., under proper culture and fertilization, than ours. To illustrate this, it is only necessary to state a few of the results, as exhibited by statements, made on the affidavits of the parties, to our county Fairs. One gentleman, in 1873, produced 119 bushels of corn on one acre of upland. In 1876, another gentleman gathered 40½ bushels of wheat from one acre; another produced 2,800 pounds of seed cotton to the acre; another produced 137 bushels of oats to the acre; another produced 694½ gallons of syrup to the acre; another produced 6,575 pounds of dry clover hay on 1 15 acres. One gentleman harvested on one acre, from which he had gathered a crop of cabbages in June of the same year, 8,646 pounds of native crab grass; another gentleman, harvested from one acre, in the

month of June, 40 bushels of wheat, and in the fall of the same year, 10,726 pounds of pea vines, making in one year \$299.00 on one acre; another raised, on one acre of new ground, 108½ bushels of Irish potatoes; another, on one acre, raised 397 bushels of sweet potatoes. One gentleman raised, on one acre, 1,552 bushels of turnips.

While we admit that the foregoing are exceptional cases, still, they serve to illustrate the capacity of our soil, and to show what may be done by proper fertilizing and cultivation.

### Products.

Our products are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, tobacco, clover and all the other grasses, barley, rye, flax, jute, sugar cane, peas, beans, ground peas, chufas, Irish and sweet potatoes, turnips, carrots, parsnips, mangel-wortzel, in fact, all of the cereals, herbs, and plants usually grown in any portion of our country, can be successfully raised in this portion of our State, except, perhaps, a very few of the tropical plants grown in the Southern portion of Florida. In addition, every variety of vegetables can be successfully grown, many of which may be gathered from our gardens throughout the entire winter.

Cotton, however, is our chief production, of which large quantities are raised, of the finest upland or short staple variety. Being in what is known as the cotton belt, our lands are peculiarly adapted to the successful growing of cotton; though in some sections, tobacco is becoming quite a rival to the "fleece king," and is destined, at no distant day, to become the leading money crop.

We also raise large quantities of the various kinds of fruits, such as apples, pears, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, raspberries, strawberries, mulberries, blackberries, cherries, plums, watermelons, and cantaloupes. Our apples and peaches are among the finest grown on the continent; whilst all of our other fruits will compare favorably with those grown in any other section.

### Timber.

Our section of country is well timbered with the best kinds of trees for making lumber. We have the white, red and post oaks, hickory, poplar, maple, pine, chesnut, dogwood, walnut and other varieties of timber trees, besides an almost endless quantity of trees suitable for fire wood.

### Stock Raising.

Northeast Georgia affords facilities for stock raising that are unsurpassed by any section of our State, if not of the Southern States. Our winters being mild, do not necessitate that amount of housing and care that are required in other and colder sections. Our forests furnish an abundance of pasturage during the summer while our swamps and cane brakes, and the hay raised on our farms, supply food for cattle

during the winter season, so that stock may be raised and kept in large quantities, during the whole year, at but little expense or trouble.

#### *Labor.*

It is thought, in some sections, that while men cannot labor in the South, in consequence of the extreme heat. This is a wide mistake. There is no reason why a white man cannot work on the farm in the South as well as in the North or West. It is a well known fact, that the thermometer rises higher in those sections than it does with us, by several degrees. We know a great many white men, as well as women and children, who labor all day long, from sunrise to sunset, on their farms, and who have done so all their lives, and who have experienced no more difficulty in doing so, than white laborers find in other sections of the country. In fact, our healthiest citizens are those who rise early in the morning, go to their farms, and remain there all day long at work.

#### FORESTS AND FIRE-PROOF HOMES.

The following paper by George May Powell, Chairman of the Forest Committee, was recently read before the American Institute in New York:

As suggested in our recent forest memorial to Congress, "it is what is saved, not what is made, which constitutes national as well as individual wealth." Increase of fire-proof buildings, especially for residences for the people, will save much of the forest wealth now being worse than wasted, in building tinder traps and calling them homes.

The human element of the forest question is likewise one of the deepest interest. Little feet grow weary early in the morning, the bloom of youth pales on the cheeks of young men and maidens, as they march to the dead line; and gray hairs dearer to us than our own lives have passed from our sight all too soon, because of malarial, pulmonary and other evils, which God's green trees were intended to prevent or modify. Death, also, in homes turned to smoke and ashes, is another fearful count in the mortuary record of our country, on consequence of improper use of materials in their erection. If the statistics of those who have suffered from this cause were gathered, they would present ghastly and heart-rending totals. Scarce a week passes in which the press does not present us results of this class of fire record which makes the flesh to creep. Whole families, or the choicest treasures of them, broiled and roasted and charred, or scarred and maimed for life, because the houses where they lived (and to build which the woodlands have been unduly depleted) have been unwisely constructed. The remedy is in fire-proof houses,

which will arrest both the holocausts and the waste of our arboreal wealth. That these fire-proofs are practicable as shelter for the masses of the people is proved by the almost absolute universality in which we find them in oriental countries.

We do not know of more than one house in the city of Jerusalem, or any other Eastern city we have visited in Northern Africa, or in Syria, which would not be difficult or impossible to consume. That one, a modern wooden cottage is on the high ground inside and west of the Damascus Gate. As far as we remember, all the rest—walls, floors and roofs—are masonry. These houses cost less there than wooden ones. The same is true, to a great extent, of the popular architecture of the people in Europe at the present time. This point is substantiated by a well-known statement of Hiram Powers, the sculptor, to the effect that when there was a fire in an Italian city, they were in no hurry to put it out, knowing how completely it could be controlled and how slowly it would spread. They would in most cases cost but little more than wooden ones here, and the difference in expense of insurance would be good interest on the difference of cost, to say nothing of the feeling of relief from anxiety from the fact of security. By the use of some such material as terra cotta, the French tell, or some other composite, cottages and villas and churches, as well as State buildings, can be erected over the heads of the people now and here. Those minor buildings can be so constructed as not only to be cheap and tasteful, but elegant. They are also healthier in respect to non-liability to sudden changes, to extremes of heat, cold and moisture. By reference to a British work on architecture it will also be seen that *salix fragilis* (L), a wood which we can grow in unbounded abundance, is both non-flammable and adapted to such portions of these structures as absolutely require wood. Treatment of curtains and some other house fixtures with a solution of alum is another point worthy of consideration by way of fire prevention. The minds of the masses need disabusing of the idea that insurance money makes good the losses from fire; the practical truth being that insurance is only a powerful suction pump to draw the losses of the few from the pockets of the many. The loss from fire being, as a question of political economy, an absolute loss of just so much national wealth. There are over thirty-one and-a-half millions of dollars of annual insured losses by fire, in the Empire State alone, paid by the insurance companies, leaving uninsured losses out of the count.

THE MARYLAND FARMER, must be admitted to be worth to each subscriber *twelve times* its cost per year. Look at, and read this number, if you doubt what we say!

## FARMING IN ENGLAND.

*The Little Progress Made in the Last Half Century—Abundance of Weeds.*

As regards farming in England, I was astonished to find how little it had progressed in the last half century. Over the whole country men were mowing grass with the old-fashioned scythes, sometimes in a string of a dozen together, hired at so much a day "and their beer," as they were in the olden time. Once in a while an American mowing machine would be seen in use, and more commonly a "hay tedder," a machine for scattering the hay after it had been mowed in the swaths. This scattering is all avoided by our mowers, but saves the hand-scattering necessary after hand-mowing; but we found a prejudice against these tedders. "for," said a quite intelligent farmer, "it shakes out the seed, and we lose that in weight when selling the hay." The hay crop in England is rather an important one, as sheep and cattle are of more consequence to them than grain. There is an immense breadth of country under grass, and as their sun is "not so warm" as ours, it takes several days and much turning over to dry it enough to store safely. The average weight per acre is greater than ours, but the extra labor they put on it brings up the cost. The hay is mostly drawn away from the fields in one-horse carts—the carts of the old heavy pattern, enough for an ordinary horse to draw alone, just as we might have seen fifty years ago. Men and women are seen everywhere at work in the hay fields, and it did seem to me that there were enough of them at it throughout the Kingdom to move the whole harvest of our Middle States.

There are some few very large farms, operated by very wealthy owners, where I saw steam ploughs, steam threshers, and other labor-saving farm machines; but they are not generally diffused—indeed, not at all diffused—among the general cultivators. I asked a farmer of some 250 acres why he had not some of these machines, and he thought his farm was too small. He was astonished when I told him that farmers of much less than 100 acres with us depended mainly on these machines. Another farmer told me he would have long ago had some of them, but he was afraid the laborers would burn down his stacks and barns if he introduced them. The farmers, I find, are very much at the mercy of the farm laborers—much more so than they are here. They hesitated to introduce machinery out of sympathy with the laborer, and now the laborers have not any sympathy for the farmers. I was on one farm looking about with the owner, when three hired laborers came in a half hour after the time agreed on for work, and the farmer expostulated, but in quite mild terms, I thought; but as we were at tea, he was called out by the men, who wanted their immediate

pay. They were "not going to work for a man who talked to them that way." They were paid, and my friend declared that he had said that, "as long as he could get one man in England to mow, he would never have a Yankee mower about." He is cured now, and the mower is in his hands. Still, the influence of good examples tells. Sir Robert Peel once told his tenantry he would give them iron ploughs if they would discard their old clumsy wooden ones. He found the iron ploughs, a year or two after, rusting in waste places. They excused themselves: "They make the weeds grow. They went deeper than the old ploughs, and brought up old seed that had been waiting for years a chance to grow." But I was pleased to see, on a visit to Tamworth, that Sir Robert's efforts had done good—for certainly the farming here is above the average of English farming—especially in the matter of freedom from weeds. In the matter of cleanliness—freedom from weeds—American farming is far ahead of English. Thousands of acres are so filled by buttercups, which no cattle will touch, that not a tenth part of the ground can be grazed by the cattle. The yellow charlock, a sort of mustard, is so abundant that grain fields are of such a golden yellow with them that the lustre can be seen for many miles away, and the person not knowing that grain was beneath would think the weeds were the crop and the crop the weeds that should be torn out. Poppies, blue-bottles, and corn-cockles, with numerous other things, abound, and I am sure I am not wrong in saying that one-tenth of all the farm land of England is given up to weeds. The American would grow a crop of potatoes, or some other one that would admit of the hoe or harrow, and in this way, in a season or two, get rid of the whole stock; but here such machinery would interfere too much with the rights of labor. In many cases, where these weeds had been cleaned from the growing grain, they had been taken out by the hand labor of women and children.—*Thos. Meehan, in Philadelphia Press.*

**TREE TRAINING THE GRAPE.**—A correspondent of the Southern Home Journal says:—I am experimenting with training the vine to the following different trees: apple, peach, wild cherry, persimmon, hickory, sassafras, mulberry, pine, oak, white oak, post oak, red oak, black jack, red elm, slippery elm, honey locust, sweet gum, black gum, crab apple, and sumac.

Of these, I prefer the hickory, persimmon and black jack, for the reason that they tend greatly to enrich the soil, while there is not much interference from spread of either root or top. Would earnestly advise all fruit growers to adopt your suggestion and experiment largely in this direction; much good is likely to result therefrom.

## Live Stock Register.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### WINTER CARE OF SHEEP.

Winter having spread her white fleece over the land, it behooves the farmer to look after his fleece producers; when they get to the ground they are subject to the "stretches," a terrible disease brought on sheep by constipation of the bowels—prevention; feed on vegetables; turnips, best; then oil cake, then hominy with offal. Sheep should be shedded very near water, as they are not apt to drink if driven to it, and if they do not, many dead lambs will likely be the result.

I make these suggestions, not for old sheep raisers, as that might be deemed presumptuous, but there are some with less experience than mine, that may be benefited.

There is a singular delicacy about sheep not noted by many—when an ewe is about lambing, she takes a corner of the shed, and all the sheep leave her there to herself. If farmers wish their lambs to grow and fatten well for an early and best market, put a pen under the shed or very near it with a trough, and so constructed that the lamb can get in, but the sheep cannot reach the trough; in the trough keep some meal, occasionally salt over it—very little—and a lamb eats but little meal.

MR. EDITOR:—Since you and I first met in the show grounds of the Maryland State Agricultural Society, each a contestant in his class, years and scenes have passed, war has driven his "crimson car" over our distressed country and deluged it with kindred gore, but peace has again spread her golden wings; but how sad to think how many of our excellent society have gone to their final, we hope, happy home.

But this is not a time to dwell on such gloomy subjects, when the chimes of the "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" have hardly ceased to cheer and you, hoping that you may have had both, that you may have many more, gilded with successful prosperity, and that I may be one of those to witness it.

Yours, truly,

Jan. 4th, 1878.

J. W. WARE,

Berryville, Clarke Co., Va

The above concise rules for care of sheep winter from the pen of our venerable and highly esteemed friend, Col. Ware, will be read with interest by all, and be particularly valuable to beginners in sheep raising, one of the most pleasant and profitable of all the many agricultural pursuits.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Ayrshire Cows.

An experienced farmer and dairyman has said: "that a good cow is one of the most valuable of farm machines;" and it is our object, to assist in deciding which is the best of the many varieties. In considering the value of machinery, close calculations are made, to decide which is the most economical, and will yield the most profitable results; equal accuracy is necessary in calculating what is produced by the cow, in shape of food for man: say milk, butter, cheese and beef; and food for the soil in shape of manure. It has been found by experience of dairymen, that the cow to be most profitable must be neither too small nor too large, as medium sized cows are usually the best milkers, both for quality and quantity. Many farmers buy large cows because they make more beef when old, and sell at a higher price, but if they calculate closely they will find that the extra expense of keeping the large cow for four or five seasons, is more than equal to what she sells for in the end.

Breeding from good milkers of native stock is uncertain in its results, they do not transmit to their offspring with any certainty, their good milking qualities; but with established breeds, the transmission of good qualities is almost invariably certain. This being the fact, let us examine the *Ayrshires*, and in so doing we will make use of description given by a prominent raiser of them. In describing them he says: "They are distinguished for their remarkable dairy qualities, and for quality and quantity of milk in proportion to size and food consumed." The head is small, with long narrow muzzle, eyes sparkling and lively, horns usually small, clear, crooked and set well apart at the roots, neck long, slender, small near the head, and fine from the dewlap, shoulders thin fore-quarters light, hind-quarters large and well developed; back straight and broad behind, carcass deep, pelvis full and wide; tail usually long small and slender; legs short with firm joints; udder large, square, broad, well forward; not over fleshy, not too low hung and not too loose; milk veins large and prominent; teats well apart and pointed outward; skin thin, hair soft, figure compact and well proportioned."

The Ayrshire cow is a little nervous when young, and fresh to the pail, but this is easily overcome by kind treatment. They are very hardy and easily kept. The milk is very rich and nutritious, and stands transportation well, this latter property is very valuable, both to sellers of milk in the cities, and also to butter makers, as the best butter cannot be made from milk which

has had its oil globules broken by transportation to the dairy. Neither is milk which is easily disturbed in its properties by transportation so good for family use, as the oil after having broken through the sacks which confine it in globules floats to the surface and becomes more or less indigestible.

As producers of milk, instances are reported where Ayrshires have given their weight in milk monthly, for four or five months. As producers of butter, fifteen to sixteen pounds per week for several weeks in succession, on grass alone. Many are reported as giving from fifty to sixty pounds of milk daily for months together.

The crosses on Ayrshires and native stock one-half and three-fourths are said to be very satisfactory and profitable, they make good milkers, easily kept, easily fattened, and excellent for beef.

W. S. TEMPLE,

47 S. Howard Street,  
Baltimore.

### The Hereford Breed of Cattle.

The white-faced, brownish red cattle, known as Herefords, are one of the old established breeds. They have an excellent reputation as beef cattle and as milkers. For both of these useful purposes they are well adapted, by reason of their remarkably quiet disposition, which is evinced by their mild eye and placid deportment. A contented docile animal is a profitable feeder, as little of its food is spent in nervous excitement or accompanying restless action. For this contentment the Hereford is conspicuous amongst the best classes of cattle, if indeed it does not surpass every other competitor for the favor of the feeder, the dairyman, or the butcher. This breed is second only to the Short Horn as a beef animal, when kept under equally favorable circumstances; but when placed in somewhat inferior keeping, it is preferable. For second-rate pastures, and in the hands of farmers who do not wish to feed up to very great weights, the Hereford will excel the Short Horn. When used for the purpose of grading up inferior native stock, bulls of this breed are sometimes preferred to the Short Horns, and they are becoming very popular in Colorado for this purpose. Since the extreme popularity of the Short Horn during the past few years, the Hereford has fallen into the background, along with every other sort of beef-stock; but now that this Short Horn excitement has passed away, each race of cattle has a fair chance to take whatever position in the public favor it may deserve, or can attain and keep. The Herefords are, therefore, now being brought into notice, and will, without doubt,

acquire many friends among those breeders who are engaged in improving the coarse native cattle. There are now many good herds in different parts of the United States.—*American Agriculturist*.

### Standard of Excellence of Berkshire Swine.

ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN BERKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Color—Black; with white on feet, face, tip of tail, and an occasional splash on the arm,	4
Face and Snout—Short; the former fine and well-dished, and broad between the eyes,	7
Eye—Very clear, rather large, dark hazel or gray,	2
Ear—Generally almost erect, but sometimes inclined forward with advancing age, medium size, thin and soft,	4
Jowl—Full and heavy, running well back on neck,	4
Neck—Short, and broad on top,	4
Hair—Fine and soft, medium thickness,	3
Skin—Smooth and pliable,	4
Shoulder—Thick and even, broad on top, and deep through chest,	7
Back—Broad, short and straight, ribs well sprung, coupling close up to hip,	8
Side—Deep and well let down, straight on bottom line,	6
Flank—Well back, and low down on leg, making nearly a straight line with lower part of side,	5
Loin—Full and wide,	9
Ham—Deep and thick, extending well up on back, and holding thickness well down on the hock,	10
Tail—Well set up on back, tapering and not coarse,	2
Legs—Short, straight and strong, set wide apart, with hoofs erect, and capable of holding good weight,	5
Symmetry—Well proportioned throughout, depending largely on condition,	5
Condition—In a good healthy growing state, not over-fed,	6
Style—Attractive, spirited, indicative of thorough breeding and constitutional vigor,	5

**HOW TO GROW PIGS.**—With proper attention to three things, pigs may be kept growing and thrifty all winter — and these things are :

1. A dry, warm place to sleep.
2. Good drink, either warm slop or fresh pumped water.
3. Not too many hogs in an enclosure, and they as near as possible of a size.

If you have large and small together, the big ones will run over the little, and they will not get their share of food.

There is much more danger of colic or epidemic diseases, where the conditions mentioned above are disregarded, than where hogs are kept thrifty and growing, and certainly there is more profit.

A dry, warm bed is a cheap luxury for hogs in winter, and every farmer should prepare a shed and plenty of material in the fall.—*Agricola*.

**ARAB MAXIMS.**—I. Let your colt be domesticated and live with you from his tenderest age, and when a horse he will be simple, docile, faithful, and inured to hardship and fatigue.

II. Do not beat your horses, nor speak to them in a loud tone of voice ; do not get angry with them, but kindly reprove their faults ; they will do better thereafter, for they understand the language of man and its meaning.

III. If you have a long day's journey before you, spare your horse at the start ; let him frequently walk to recover his wind. Continue this until he has sweated and dried three times and you may ask of him whatever you please, he will not leave you in difficulty.

IV. Observe your horse when he is drinking at a brook. If in bringing down his head he remains square, without bending his limbs, he possesses sterling qualities, and all parts of his body are built symmetrically.

V. Four things he must have broad — front, chest, loins and limbs ; four things long — neck, chest, fore-arm and croup ; four things short — pasterns, back, ears and tail.—*Tribune*.

**STANDARD POINTS IN A JERSEY.**—The Royal Jersey Agriculture and Horticulture Society (England) gives the following scale of points as the recognized standard for Jersey cows : 1. Head ; small, fine and tapering. 2. Cheek ; small. 3. Throat ; clean. 4. Muzzle ; fine and encircled by light color. 5. Nostrills ; high and open. 6. Horns ; smooth, crumpled ; not too thick at base and tapering. 7. Ears ; small and thin. 8. Ears ; of a deep orange color within. 9. Eye ; full and

placid. 10. Neck ; straight, fine and placed lightly on shoulders. 11. Chest ; broad and deep. 12. Barrel ; hooped, broad and deep. 13. Well ribbed home with but little space between the last rib and hip. 14. Back ; straight from withers to top of hip. 15. Back ; straight from the top of the hip to the setting on of the tail. 16. Tail ; fine. 17. Tail ; hanging down to the hocks. 18. Hide ; thin and movable, but not too loose. 19. Hide ; covered with fine, soft hair. 20. Hide ; of good color.\* 21. Fore-legs ; short straight and fine. 22. Fore-arm ; swelling and full above the knee. 23. Hind-quarters ; from the hock to the point of the rump long and well filled up. 24. Hind legs ; short and straight below the hocks, and bones rather fine. 25. Hind-legs ; squarely placed, not to close together when viewed from behind. 26. Hind-legs ; not to close in walking. 27. Hoofs ; small. 28. Udder ; full in form, *i. e.*, well in line with the belly. 29. Udder ; well up behind. 30. Teats ; large and squarely placed, behind well apart. 31. Milk veins ; very prominent. 32. Growth. 33. General appearance. 34. Condition. Perfection, 34 points.

\*What does the term "good color" imply? If there is anything in color, and color is made a point in the recognized standard, why is not the particular color included in the scale? If color is of no importance, then there are but 33, instead of 34, points in the scale. In England the color now regarded as the best in a Jersey cow is dun-deer color. But that which is fashionable to-day may give place to another color at a later period ; hence color is ignored.

**LIME TO THE ACRE.**—Lime in itself, is not generally considered a fertilizer or food for plants, while potash is. Carbonate or quick-lime, as it is usually called, when applied to sandy soils, does little more than hasten the decomposition of whatever vegetable matter it contains, rendering every particle useful to the plants growing therein ; and, as one of our noted agricultural writers long ago remarked, "the principal functions of lime as a manure appears to regulate the condition of the organic matter in the soil, and to facilitate its healthy decay." Good judgment is required in all cases where lime is applied, or else it may do more harm than good ; but upon a light sandy soil, containing a moderate amount of vegetable matter, five bushels of freshly slaked stone lime would be sufficient, or ten to fifteen of air-slaked or gas lime, evenly distributed over the surface. It is better to apply lime in small quantities and frequently than in large doses and at long intervals.—*Exchange*,

## HORTICULTURAL.

ERYNGIUM LEAVENWORTHII.

The showiest of annuals, with stems from one to three feet high, and very branching. The heads are of a beautiful purple. Branches cut after the flowers and leaves have matured will last two or three months, making it a valuable addition for Winter bouquets. We pronounce this one of the most valuable plants introduced in many years.

For the above cut and description of this elegant plant, we are indebted to Messrs. Thorburn & Co., New York.

### ORCHARD-GRASS.

In the town of Elkton, Kentucky, an experiment has been quietly going on, which a few of our shrewdest farmers have taken note of, and all would do well to investigate.

In 1851 the lot in the rear of the bank was seeded to orchard grass. It was mowed one year, and ever since has been closely pastured. The turf, except in the shade of the trees, is equal to any Bluegrass turf in Fayette or Bourbon counties, and now, after the severe drouth, it is fresh and green, yielding from less than half an acre sufficient pasturage to keep a cow real fat, demonstrating that orchard-grass, when thickly seeded upon the soil of this county, makes a permanent pasture of the most desirable character. Orchard-grass is now selling in Louisville at \$1.00 per bushel. Yet our farmers are too poor to buy a few bushels to seed down their worn and weary lands, and are letting their old fields grow up in weeds and broomsage, to keep them from washing into gullies while their cows and calves are looking thin for want of rich pastures. The Giange Stock Club should make a note of this. Garrard, Lincoln and Boyle counties are profitably exporting orchard-grass seed to England, and rivaling the Blue Grass Region in raising stock, and quit raising tobacco, before the war. Their lands naturally not so good as ours, have so improved under the system of grazing on orchard-grass, that they are worth more than the lands of Todd county, although their railroad facilities are much inferior to ours. It would doubtless be wise to sow clover and orchard-grass together on our tired lands next spring. If each farmer would sow ten or fifteen acres a year, and gradually accumulate fine grade stock to graze upon it, the result would soon be felt.—*Elkton Witness*.

**COVERING STRAWBERRIES.**—Evergreen branches are more useful for this purpose than any other covering which we have employed. If not put on so thickly as entirely to exclude light, they are less liable than anything else to injure the plants by smothering. Straw is apt to become packed flat on the strawberries after a soaking rain. Dry leaves are still worse by excluding air and light. The same fault exists with manure. By using a thin covering of evergreens, the strawberry plants will come out in a vigorous condition with bright green foliage, and not brown and injured like those, which are exposed to all the changes of freezing and thawing. The evergreens are easily applied and removed, and leave the bed clear.

**COVERING FLOWER BEDS,** which contain half tender bulbs and shrubs, such as hyacinths and roses, is very easily and neatly effected with evergreen branches. Let them be cut nearly equal in length, and begin at the outside and place them tops outward in a neat circle if the bed is round, and on these lay the next circle, and so on till the bed is covered. They will thus become a real ornament instead of defacing the grounds as when straw or cow's manure is employed. This covering should not be applied till freezing weather.—*Country Gentleman*.

**THE CHICORY PLANT:**—This plant, known in botany as of the *cichorium* genus, is grown to some extent near Toronto, and in other parts of Ontario, Canada. It is closely related to the dandelion, and there is a great resemblance in the shape of the leaves of the two, though those of the chicory are much the larger, coarser and darker colored. The roots of the chicory are fleshy and milky, and grow about the size of a small carrot or parsnip. The plant matures in October or November, when it is taken from the ground and spread out to dry, on raised platforms. The chief use made of this plant is to mix it with coffee, the admixture being pleasant and agreeable to the taste. It is estimated that nineteen-twentieths of the ground coffee sold at retail in the United States contains a proportion of chicory. A little goes a great way, and when a larger proportion is used than the coffee will bear, its effects are deleterious. The process of curing it for market is as follows: When the plant has matured, the roots are pulled up and put on boards to dry. When thoroughly dried, the mass is placed in a cylindrical roasting furnace, like the ordinary revolving cylinder used for roasting coffee; the cylinder is placed over a fire and kept revolving until the roots are thoroughly parched: this, together with the drying process, reduces them about one-fourth in bulk. After roasting, the mass is ground to a coarse powder, and placed in packages, when it is ready for market.—*Turf, Field and Farm*.

**GRAPE GROWER'S MAXIMS.**—The following rules are given by the *Rural American*:

1. Prepare the ground in fall; plant in spring
2. Give the vine plenty of manure, old and well decomposed; for fresh manure excites growth, but does not mature it.
3. Luxuriant growth does not always insure fruit.
4. Dig deep but plant shallow.
5. Young vines produce beautiful fruit, but old vines produce the richest.

6. Prune in autumn to insure growth, but in the spring to promote fruitfulness.

7. Plant your vines before you put up trellises.

8. Vines, like old soldiers, should have good arms.

9. Prune spars to one well-developed bud; for the nearer the old wood, the higher flavored the fruit.

10. Those who prune long must soon climb.

11. Vine leaves love the sun, the fruit the shade.

12. Every leaf has a bud at the base, and either a branch of fruit or a tendril opposite to it.

13. A tendril is an abortive fruit bunch—a bunch of fruit a productive tendril.

14. A bunch of grapes without a healthy leaf opposite is like a ship at sea without a rudder—it can't come to port.

15. Laterals are like politicians; if not checked, they are the worst of thieves.

16. Good grapes are like gold—no one has enough.

17. The earliest grape will keep the longest, for that which is fully matured is easily preserved.

18. Grape eaters are long livers.

19. Hybrids are not always high bred.

20. He who buys the new and untried varieties, should remember that the seller's maxim is, Let the buyer look out for himself.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### Saving Fertilizers.

Every farm, and through it, the farmer sustains annually a considerable loss in the waste of fertilizing material. Every part of all substances that contain fertility, that are allowed to go to waste, especially if they had their origin in the soil, either directly or indirectly, is to such an extent diminishing the fertility of the farm. Royal A. Thompson of Columbia is a very careful farmer, and has always been particular to save what many would allow to go to waste. It is no uncommon thing for farmers to lose by accident or otherwise animals upon the farm; the carcass of every animal contains a large amount of nitrogen, one of the three principal elements of fertilization, and yet very many farmers are content if they can only get the object under ground, or removed from any effects upon the olfactory organs. But Mr. Thompson pursues a more judicious course, saving not only the nitrogen contained in the flesh, blood, &c., but the phosphorus of the bones. His mode of procedure is this;—having removed some rocks from his farm, one of which left a large excavation, he reserved this excavation for the purpose of stor-

ing fertilizing materials; so when an animal dies or is accidentally killed, it is hauled to this excavation thrown in and covered over with earth and such other accumulations of trash as all farms furnish. Usually at the end of a year, the softer parts of the animal have all decayed, and the accumulations of earth having absorbed all the fertilizing substances, this is removed and the bones are saved by themselves; but these must be reduced, and since by the use of sulphuric acid, it is necessary that the bones be ground; Mr. Thompson to avoid this necessity, conceived a new mode which works successfully; he empties 25 pounds of crude potash to every 100 pounds of bone using a necessary amount of water and has no difficulty in cutting the bones to the consistency of soft soap, and which is dried by means of charcoal dust. He considers this more valuable than any commercial super-phosphate than he can obtain. Would not his course be advantageous to many farmers.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.

Columbia, Conn.

### CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

J. M. Thorburn & Co's., N. Y. Trade Price List of Flower and Garden Seeds, for 1878.

L. B. Cases' Botanical Index to Rare and Beautiful Plants, Richmond, Va.

R. Buist, Philadelphia, List and Prices of New Crop Garden Seeds, for 1878.

J. B. Root's Garden Manual and Catalogue of Plants and Seeds, Rockford, Illinois

From Henry Clarke & Sons, 39 King St., Covent Garden, London, England, Catalogue of English Garden and Flower Seeds.

R. Buist's Almanac and Garden Manual for 1878, for the Southern States, Philadelphia.

Monthly Bulletin of the American Jersey Cattle Club, Geo. E. Waring, Editor, *Newport, R. I.*

From Ellwanger and Barry, Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y., their 5 splendid Catalogues illustrated, and descriptive of Trees, both Fruit and Ornamental Flowers, Plants and Roses. —It is their 30th edition.

Price List of Small Fruits from E. P. Roe, Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, Orange Co., N. Y.

Peter Henderson & Co's Catalogue of Everything for the Garden, New York City. It is a superb one. How much farther will our Florists and Seedmen go in getting up their Catalogues in the highest style? What can our European friends think when they see the many splendid Catalogues of fruits and flowers their American cousins annually issue, each one out-rivalling its predecessor.

Beach, Son & Co's Catalogue of Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Bulbs, &c.

Henry A. Dreer's Price List of Vegetable, Flower, Grass and other Seeds, Philadelphia.

General Catalogue of Seeds, Plants and Flowers, by Vilmorin-Andrieux of Paris, France.

THE  
MARYLAND FARMER.

A STANDARD MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture &amp; Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN.

Proprietor and Editor.

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor.

141 West Pratt Street,

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, FEBRUARY 1, 1878

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Any subscriber who will get a new subscriber can send us the \$1.00 and keep the 50 cents as commission for his trouble.

Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors; and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

To POSTMASTERS.—You will see that the subscription price of the MARYLAND FARMER is \$1.50 per year; but you will be allowed a commission of 50 cents on each subscriber that you will send us; that is, send us \$1.00 and keep 50 cents on each.

☞ Now is the time to subscribe, and advertise, when the year is young and when we are sending out hundreds of specimen numbers of our journal, that it may make its acquaintance with new, and we hope be welcomed by old subscribers and advertisers.

FIFTEENTH VOLUME OF  
THE MARYLAND FARMER.

This is the second number of the 15th volume of THE MARYLAND FARMER; and we claim it has been published longer continuously, without cessation, by the same publisher, than any other farmers' journal in this or other States south of Philadelphia.

A popular magazine,—as attested by our subscription list, frequent kind letters from parties, and the notices of our brethren of the press in this and other Southern States,—and is also a *great advertising medium*, as shown by the numerous new advertisements in the present number.

During the present year, we shall allow nothing to prevent our making it superior to all former issues, and maintain beyond dispute its high character.

Its aim will be to admit nothing in its columns like Theory, unless based on science controlled by reason; nor anything called Practical, unless proved by successful experiments.

If our old subscribers will do us the favor to canvass for THE MARYLAND FARMER, by showing it to their neighbors and soliciting their subscriptions, they will confer a great favor on us, and, we do not doubt, confer a greater profit on the new subscriber.

## MAKE UP CLUBS.

To Clubs of five or more, with pay in advance,  
we will supply THE MARYLAND FARMER at \$1.00  
each, per year,

Those who will send us \$2.50, during this month, shall receive two copies for the year.

Any one who will send us six dollars for six subscribers, shall receive a seventh copy for getting up the club.

These terms enable persons to get the Magazine at \$1.00 per year, postage paid.

YOUNG MEN!

It is an easy way to make money by getting subscribers for THE MARYLAND FARMER. Send 15 cents for Specimen Copies, and ascertain what Liberal Commissions we will allow.

**MARDEN'S SOUTHERN SCALES AND BALANCES.**—We desire to call attention to these celebrated Scales for weighing Hay, Cattle, &c., as advertised in this number of our journal. We deem them almost indispensable for every farmer who desires to know the exact weight of his crops and his stock. How different animals progress in weight when fed on different kinds of food—exactness in farming operations—can only be arrived at by convenient scales. Such balances enable the farmer to sell his stock and hay with an accurate knowledge of the quantity he is disposing of, and not relying upon guesswork, which often proves to his detriment—purchasers usually of those articles being better judges than the producer. Formerly these Scales sold for \$200. The price for ordinary farm Scales has been reduced down to only \$50.

### Important Correction.

During last month, several of the political papers of the State did us the injustice to give us the credit—whatever it may be—of the charge against the Comptroller, made by the “*American Farmer*,” of having paid to the Agricultural College the annual donation of the State of \$6,000, without authority of law. The Comptroller has fully exposed the fallacy of the charge, and needs no defence on our part. How such a mistake could have been made by our intelligent brothers of the press we cannot imagine, as the publisher of *THE MARYLAND FARMER*, being one of the Board of Trustees of the Maryland Agricultural College, would hardly have attacked the Comptroller for unwarrantably paying money to the College, and thereby reflecting discredit upon the Board of Trustees, of which he is a member, by admitting they received money they were not entitled to honestly and legally.

### JOURNALISTIC NOTICES.

*THE PRINCE GEORGIAN*, Upper Marlboro Prince George’s Co., Md.—That excellent and handsomely printed weekly, makes the first number of volume 17, the occasion of enlargement and an improved heading. It is hard for improvement to be at once realized in a paper that has always been so attractive in appearance and substantial in its reading matter. It is well edited and deserves extensive patronage. As a valued exchange we wish it every success possible.

*THE MARLBORO’ GAZETTE*—We feel highly complimented by one of the oldest, if not the oldest, rural paper in the State, whose editorship has descended from the father, its founder, to the son, and all the time ably and judiciously edited, with continuous growth of patronage. Its good judgment will be appreciated, no doubt, by all practical men of discrimination, in the following kind notice:

“*THE MARYLAND FARMER*, for January is received, beginning the new year with a number so full of interesting and instructive articles, that, forgetting all else, we did not lay it aside until all of its sixty-two pages were carefully read. Its articles on “Forest Trees,” “The Question of Labor in Agricultural Colleges,” and “Ammoniated Manures” are alone worth the price of the Farmer for the year. “Patuxent Planter” gives us a “Chat with the Ladies,” and that beautiful writer “Wicomico” has in this number a pathetically beautiful article, entitled “Life’s Changes.” We would like to see the *MARYLAND FARMER* in every household in Southern Maryland.”

*THE EVENING STAR*, Washington, D. C.—This old and successful paper continues to flourish, as will be seen by the Prospectus of its Weekly in our advertising columns. The Star, both Daily and Weekly, has a great circulation and is popular both as a newspaper and an advertising medium. It has outlived all of its Washington contemporaries, existing when it started, a quarter of a century ago and has steadily increased its circulation and its usefulness.

*THE MONTHLY FLORAL AND FRUIT MAGAZINE*, D. S. Curtiss, Publisher, Washington, D. C. Price \$1.00 per year.


This, the first number of the first issue of this Journal, we have carefully perused and examined. It is exceedingly well printed, and the reading matter is of a high order. The articles are concise and clear, and full of instruction. This paper fills a void long felt at the capital of this great country. Its locality and the class of people designed to be interested in the chief object it has in view indicated by its title, will doubtless insure a large patronage and to this wide circle of readers, will be added a host of writers and persons, whose avocations as amateurs, florists, market gardeners and fruit growers, must, from self-interest, give cheerful aid and support.

*THE SOUTH GEORGIAN AGRICULTURIST*, L. C. Bryan, Editor, Thomasville, Georgia.

The first number of this new monthly Magazine is on our table; and we welcome it with pleasure for its merits and its neatness. We have no doubt that of its success, if it will keep up its present favorable impression. Georgia farmers should be pleased to have such an exponent in their midst, and give it such substantial aid as will enable it to extend its usefulness, and thereby help their individual prosperity.

*FARMER’S HOME JOURNAL*, Louisville, Kentucky  
An admirable stock Journal.

*THE SOUTHERN PLANTER AND FARMER*, Richmond Va., Dr. L. R. Dickinson, editor—One of the ablest and best Journals, published monthly, in the South and surpassed by no agricultural journal in the whole country. It is always a welcome visitor to our editorial table.

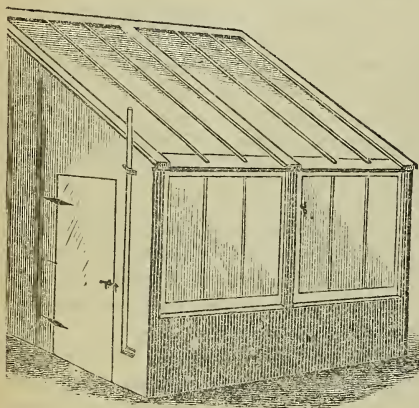
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**PRESERVE YOUR PAPERS AND KEEP YOUR FILES COMPLETE, YOU WILL HAVE USE FOR MANY THINGS PUBLISHED, AND WHEN THE VOLUME CLOSES IT WILL MAKE A VALUABLE BOOK.**

## A CHEAP PLANT HOUSE.

We give our readers the benefit of the following plan of a cheap Plant House, furnished by a gentleman of Baltimore to Vick's admirable "*Illustrated Magazine*" for January, 1878:—

"I would like to give you an account of some very pleasant and successful experience I have had in growing flowers in winter, by which your readers may be informed that the luxury of a hot-house may be enjoyed without the usual require of being 'well off.' I live on the North side of a street running East and West. My rear fence is ten feet in height, of tongue and groove heavy Yellow Pine. Against this I built a little hot-house seven feet square, front height six feet, and back nine feet. Having about my house all the necessary tools, and being accustomed from boyhood to their use, I undertook to build it myself, and made quite a good job of it. The house



GREENHOUSE.—OUTSIDE ELEVATION.

finished, I stocked it with plants for the winter, and arranged a square tin vessel under the lower stand, filled with water, below which I placed a coal oil lamp for heating. This I soon found destroyed nearly all the foliage in the house. I then had constructed a tin tank, seven feet by twelve inches and four inches deep, with a hollow bottom two inches deep; into this hollow bottom I had three large holes cut for three lamps, and in the end of same a pipe was attached to run outside of the house as a chimney to carry off the fumes of the lamps. This tank filled with water required but one lamp placed under the middle hole to keep the house warm during the severest weather—the house being covered at night with carpet over the top and front, and my flowers prospered and grew splendidly. Over this tank I started, in boxes, all my Spring seed, and this service alone was worth all my trouble and expenses, and hope it may tend to encourage some other lovers of flowers to possess themselves of one of the greatest pleasures and comforts they can have while engaged in their favorite pursuit.

2 old Sash, 24 by 34 feet, for front,.....	\$1 00
225 feet flooring, tongue and groove, at \$3.50,.....	7 88
48 feet 2 by 3 Scantling, at \$2.75,.....	1 32
2 top Sash, made to order,.....	2 50
Staging (work done by myself),.....	3 40
Painting (work done by myself),.....	60
Hardware,.....	1 50
Cord and Pulleys for top sash,.....	80
Tank and Lamps for heating,.....	9 70

Total,.....\$28 70

Tables, shelves, racks, &c., I built out of old lumber from recent fence repairs. I kept no account of oil, but think I used about a gallon per week for the one lamp, the largest made. Price paid for oil, 20 cents per gallon. I enclose a card, on which I have attempted to give you an idea of my little pet."

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA. Highly interesting.

THE ILLUSTRATED REGISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS, for 1878. From Luther Tucker & Sons, Albany, N. Y. This is another valuable addition to the literature of agriculture embraced in this annual series of rural affairs.

THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW, for January-February, is unusually excellent and able on all subjects treated by contributors. Published by A. S. Barnes & Co., New York. Price, \$5 per annum. The number before us contains the famous article of Alexander H. Stephens on "The Count of the Electoral Vote."

THE THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT OF L. L. POLK, Commissioner of Agriculture of North Carolina. January, 1878. This is a very interesting paper, and will be read with profit and pleasure by all who may obtain a copy of it.

A LARGE POULTRY YARD.—Probably the largest poultry yard in this country is that of Mr. A. B. Robeson, at Greene, Chenango County, N. Y. He has 4,000 turkeys, 6,000 ducks and 1,200 hens. They consume daily 60 bushels corn, 2 barrels meal, 2 barrels potatoes, and a quantity of charcoal. The meal, potatoes and charcoal are boiled together and form a pudding, which is fed warm. He has twelve buildings for his poultry, from one to two hundred feet long, fourteen feet wide and seven under the eaves, with a door at each end. Mr. Robeson says there is money in poultry. He gets 10 cents per pound for turkey feathers, 12 cents for hens' and 65 cents for ducks'. He intends to keep a great many more next season, and has agents out all over the country buying up poultry and eggs.—*Turf, Field and Farm.*

## THE APIARY.

### Bees and Honey in the South.

BY PAUL L. VIALLOU.

#### CHAPTER VII.

##### HONEY PLANTS.

The mulberry is planted and cultivated solely for the silk worm, the leaves are gathered with pains and expenses for the purpose of nourishing these worms to obtain silk; but bees, on the contrary, save as such trouble, that of cultivating plants for their wants, as during the spring, summer and fall months, our fields are covered with all sorts of honey secreting flowers, and we lose this delicious nectar by a lack of having enough bees to gather it.

I will not enumerate all honey secreting plants, as nearly all the flowering trees and plants of the vegetable kingdom yield honey and pollen, but will mention only the most important from which bees gather their supplies.

In stating the time of the blooming of the following plants, I may be a little out of the way, having not had sufficient leisure time to devote a personal observation, therefore I had to depend on information procured from others.

The early blossoming of the Willows gives them a special value to the Bee Keeper, as they abound both in pollen and honey of fine quality. Our swamps are rich in several varieties of Willows which begin to bloom in the latter part of February, and last for nearly one month.

The Peach, Nectarine, Plum Pear, Apple and Cherry, will afford early supplies to the bees, and will greatly help them for a large increase, and should the weather be favorable, a fair amount of honey is gathered from them. It is a fine sight indeed in the morning to see the bees soaring around the brilliant blossoms in search of the precious nectar.

The Dandelion is also one of our finest flowers in the spring, which furnishes honey and pollen, when the yield from fruit trees is nearly over, and its conspicuous yellow blossoms are literally covered with bees from its first appearance. The Poplar or Tulip Tree, also known as White Wood is said to be one of the greatest honey producing trees in the world. It is a very fine tree attaining the height of 100 feet, covered with rich foliage and with large yellow blossoms, from the middle of April to nearly the middle of May, from which bees gather abouteous amount of honey of a fine color—thick and of good flavor.

White Clover is one of our most important plants, and one of our main dependencies as a honey producing plant, and the source from which bees derive most of their supplies. It grows and flourishes all over this country and will always yield a superior honey and in profusion, if the weather is favorable, with an occasional shower. The honey gathered from it is pure and white and generally commands the highest market prices. It blooms from February to July in this latitude—where Clover is abundant they are never enough bees to gather one-half of the honey it affords.

The Black Locust is also a very good honey yielding tree, and affords a supply of fine honey for several days in April; also the Yellow Locust, which blooms at about the same time, gives very often a good help to the bees—when the locusts are in bloom they are covered with bees during the whole day.

In June we have very often a fine supply of honey from the Prickly Ash or Tooth-ache Tree, which when in bloom is literally covered with umbels of greenish flowers, which bees frequent from daylight to about 10 o'clock. This tree grows wild in our swamps, and we have also several other species of Ash, which I have no doubt yield honey.

We have also the Elder, which blooms in this latitude in the latter part of June, just about the time clover begins to fall. Its honey yielding property is not very regular, but whenever the season is favorable, we have a good increase in the weight of our hives.

The blackberry, which is known nearly all over the United States, growing in neglected fields, along fences, on the borders of woods, and wherever too much shade and moisture does not interfere with it, blooms for a considerable time, and affords early pasturage to the bees.

The Raspberry is spoken very highly of as a honey yielding plant, but not being acquainted with it, in that light, I cannot say much. Mr. Quinby says, "that bees for several weeks are allowed to partake of this exquisite beverage; it is secreted at all hours, and in all kind of weather \*\*\* even white clover, important as it is in furnishing the greatest part of the stores, would be neglected at this season, if the Raspberry only yielded a full supply. Clover begins to blossom with the Raspberry, and continues longer."

When mustard is cultivated, bees will thrive well and gather a good amount of honey of a rather strong taste.

The Pitasporum, Legustium and Neburuan which abound in our gardens generally yield honey. The corn and melon will yield a large amount

of pollen, and though many doubt their honey yielding properties. I have seen my hives gain 2 to 3 pounds a day, while the bees were working on these plants.

The Golden Rod is one of our fall honey yielding plants. It is very abundant here and grows luxuriantly all along our ditches and in our uncultivated fields. We have many species of this plant, it blooms from August to October.

We can also speak of the Wild Asters, as affording in some seasons an immense quantity of honey—furnishing a succession of flowers for several weeks, at about the same as the Golden Rod. It is seen growing wild on our roadsides and along the borders of our fields. The two varieties of Smartweed, or Pepper Grass, that we have here are excellent bee pasturage and they yield very white honey. They bloom with me from September to October.

There are probably very many flowers yielding honey, of whose value I am not acquainted. As I cannot say much in regard to cultivating plants as an artificial pasturage for our bees, I quote the following from Mr. A. J. Root.

‘If one has the money, and can afford to run the risk of a failure, it is a fine thing to make some accurate experiments, and it may be that a farm of one or two hundred acres, judiciously stocked with honey bearing plants, trees and grains, would be a success financially. It has been much talked about, but none, so far as we know, have ever put the idea in practice. To beginners, we would say. Plant and sow all you can that will be sure to pay, aside from the honey crop, and then if that is a success, you will be so much ahead; but beware of investing much in seeds that are for plants producing honey, and nothing else in value.’

We may add to the above list the following plants, which are said to yield honey and pollen. The Maples, Strawberries, Catnip, Sage, Eupatorium, Buckwheat, Grape Vine, Wild Plum, Sumach, Bass-wood, Arrow-wood, etc.

There is a source from which bees gather a large amount of honey, but as I never saw it, I cannot say much in regard to it—it is the honey dew. Some say that it is a secretion of certain plant lice, and others pretend that it is a real dew. This has been the subject of a great deal of controversy in our bee journals, but I don't think the source of it has ever been well decided.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### HOW TO PREVENT SWARMING.

The great objection to natural swarming arises from the fact that bees are liable to swarm so often,

and therefore it is apt to weaken the colonies of bees in such a way that no benefit is derived from them.

As the very key to all success in apiculture is that the bees must be kept strong, and as this can not be done if bees are allowed to swarm as they please, it is, therefore, better to provide against natural swarming and increase your stocks by artificial means (in manner to be hereafter explained), at your leisure and when necessary, and by this means waste no time in anxious watching and lose no colony by not receiving prompt attention.

Several methods have been advised to prevent the issue of swarms—such as to keep your hives shaded and giving ample room to the bees; using the honey extractor; making artificial swarms by division; to examine the combs of the hive every few days while the swarming fever lasts and destroy all queen cells, and clipping the Queen's wings.

This last method being the best, easiest and the most certain, and as it is the one that I have been practicing with the most satisfaction for several years, I will not complicate the subject by detailing the others.

As we are aware that, if the Queen fails to join the swarm, the bees will return to the hive, we take advantage of this, and clip the Queen's wing so as to have the swarm to our command,

The Queen in attempting to accompany the swarm, having one of her wings clipped and therefore unable to fly, will fall to the ground in front of the hive, and the bees missing her will return to the hive, and the loud hum they make as they return will guide the queen back to her home. But I would advise the apiarist to be at hand during the swarming season, so as to find and return the Queen to her hive, as she may hop a little too far and fail to get back; and in this case the bees will rear a lot of young queens, and the swarm may re-issue upon the hatching of a young queen. This swarm will be larger as it will be composed of the first swarm and an after swarm and may issue at any time, and is very apt not to cluster, and take a straight shoot for the woods; which will be a total loss and greatly weaken the colony.

As soon as the Queen is returned to her hive, and before the swarm returns, the hive must be opened and all the queen cells destroyed, which will prevent the re-issuing of the swarm, and also prevent the superceding of the Queen, which the bees sometimes do after several attempts to swarm without having the Queen to join them.

Now, if we wish to hive the swarm it is a very easy matter—as soon as the swarm has issued and the Queen found, we remove the hive, which has cast the swarm, to a little distance, and put an empty hive, which is provided with some empty combs, in its stead. As soon as the swarm returns and a part of the bees have entered, we place the Queen at the entrance of the hive and our swarm is hived without any trouble, and as soon as all the bees have entered, we carry it to a new stand and put the other one back.

If we have a fertile Queen on hand, we must introduce her into the hive which has cast the swarm, after cutting out the queen cells, by which means we will have no risk of after swarms, and gain at least two weeks in the population of the hive and in the yield of honey: In a few days both colonies will be in a prosperous condition and if the season is good they will yield a fair amount of surplus honey—one by having a supply of empty combs, and the other by having a laying Queen.

Before clipping the wing of a Queen, we must ascertain that she is fertilized and laying; as great care must be taken that she is not a virgin Queen, as in this case the Queen would remain barren and worthless and it would lead to the destruction of the colony. When we wish to clip a Queen's wings we must examine the combs, and if they contain eggs and larvæ we may rest assured that the Queen is fertile and we can perform the operation.

To clip the Queen's wing, the hive must be opened, as much as possible, without jar or shake, and the frames lifted quietly so as not to frighten the Queen. When she is seen, with the slender point of one of the blades of a pair of small, keen, sharp-pointed scissors, we lift one of her wings, and clip off at least half of it.

The clipping must be done when she is walking leisurely about the comb, and she must not be frightened nor touched if possible; but should it be found necessary to pick her up, we must never take her by the abdomen or soft part of her body, but always by one wing or the shoulders—as by taking her by the abdomen she is apt to be crippled and worthless, which would be a great loss, especially if she is a valuable Queen.—*Our Home Journal*.

#### OUR LETTER BOX.

In addition to our different departments, we propose to set apart a column or more, for *Questions and Answers*, so that our friends can ask as many questions as they please and we will endeavor to answer, or some of our readers, who possess the required information will no doubt respond, and in this way we hope to have a pleasant interchange of useful information.

#### HOUSEHOLD RECIPES.

**THE USES OF THE LEMONS.**—As a writer in the *London Lancet* remarks, few people know the value of lemon juice. A piece of Lemon bound upon a corn will cure in a few days; it should be renewed night and morning. A free use of lemon juice and sugar will always relieve a cough. Most people feel poorly in the Spring, but if they would eat a lemon every day for a week—with or without sugar, as they like—they would find it better than any medicine. Lemon juice used according to this recipe will sometimes cure consumption; put a dozen lemons into cold water and slowly bring to a boil; boil slowly until the lemons are soft, then squeeze until all the juice is extracted; and sugar to your taste and drink. In this way use one dozen lemons a day. If they cause pain lessen the quantity and only use five or six a day until you are better, and then begin again with a dozen a day. After using five or six dozen the patient will begin to gain flesh and enjoy food. Hold on to the lemons, and still use them freely for several weeks more. Another use for lemons is for a refreshing drink in Summer, or in sickness at any time. Prepare as directed above and add water and sugar. But in order to have this keep well, after boiling the lemons, squeeze and strain carefully; then to every half pint of juice add one pound of loaf or crushed sugar, boil and stir a few minutes more until the sugar is dissolved, skim carefully and bottle. You will get more juice from the lemons by boiling them, and the preparation keeps better.

[In addition to the above, our attention was called the other day, to the case of a man suffering with an incipient, or what all the old women pronounced a decided "*bone-felon*,"—as all know, is a terribly painful affliction. The young man said he suffered greatly but would not try the usual remedies for he had had some experience of them, and would try his own remedy. He took a lemon, cut it in half, got out the seed and put it over the supposed felon, tied it up and in two days his finger was well, the whole end of the finger discolored by the citric acid of the fruit. This is corroborative of the lemon being a cure for corns, both the corn and the felon, being whitlows affecting the extreme joints of fingers or toes, and called in one case, "*bone-felon*," and in the other "*corn*"—the latter usually less painful than the former. The lemon is not only a luxury as a fruit, but is now considered to possess in medicine a great curative power.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

**CHEESE PUDDING.**—This is a supper dish, and costs twelve cents. Into two quarts of boiling water, containing two tablespoonfuls salt, stir one pound yellow Indian meal, (cost, four cents,) and a quarter of a pound of grated cheese, (cost, four cents); boil it for twenty minutes, stirring it occasionally, to prevent burning; then put it in a greased baking pan, sprinkle over the top a quarter of a pound grated cheese, (cost, four cents,) and brown in a quick oven. Serve hot. If any remain slice it cold and fry brown.—*Miss Corson*.

## A Word to the Ladies about Butter Printing.

Many country ladies depend on the sale of butter to buy little necessities as well as a few luxuries that come in play on the farm, and much of this sold — made by careful and neat housewives — would pass as gilt-edge if it was done up in neat prints, which is so important to command the full price. It is no uncommon thing to find tip top butter without a fault, selling for little over half what the neat half-pound prints properly colored bring alongside of it, and the reason is simply the style in which it reaches the consumer. After the rolls of your nice butter is thrown in with trashy stuff, absorbing the offensive odors of some unclean dairy or the rancid butter alongside of it; and when it reaches the city through some country store, the whole is sold as common roll butter, bringing a poor reward to the careful, neat and tidy maker — as many of you are, and pride yourselves on being so; yet your work is not appreciated for the above reasons. To obtain a fair and just reward for your efforts, a little expense in purchasing a neat butter-mould, with your monogram or some other devise on it, will soon pay for itself by the better price obtained for the butter. The mould for printing such blocks is illustrated and explained as follows:

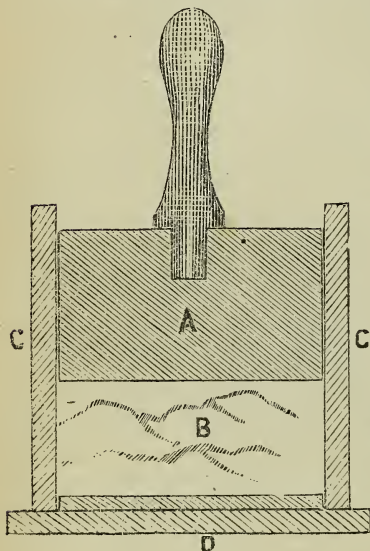
*This illustrates the usual Half Pound Prints.*

**A.**—Mould of any desired figure, with monogram or initials.

**B.**—Butter to be printed, in the box.

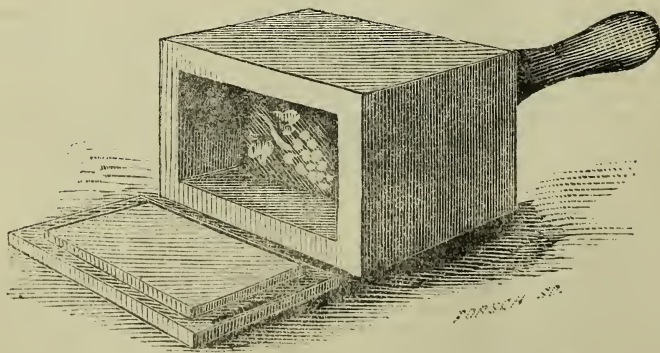
**C.**—Box made of heavy polished hard wood, dove-tailed with pin through each corner, which prevents warping or getting out of shape. Inside diameter  $2\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ , about the usual size of  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound prints.

**D.**—Platform for the box to rest on when printing.



### DIRECTIONS FOR USE.

After weighing the butter, place in the box and press down with the mould A. Then lift the box up, at the same time pressing on the mould, which leaves the butter on the platform, ready for the cloths. With a little practice, the butter can be printed very fast. See that the wood is moistened with brine.



*The reader will refer to the advertisement of these Prints in our advertising columns this month.*

They are very simple, easily understood, and, with a little practice, can be rapidly printed. The prints are covered with cheap, white cloths, neatly arranged over the print, with the monogram or stamp—such as Jersey, Alderney, or Gilt Edge—exposed to view.

Nearly all the butter sold in this form is colored in winter to about the usual tint of grass butter. Beware of too much color, as that exposes the harmless trick and injures the sale. A slight Alderney tint is all that is required, and the proper quantity to use is soon acquired by a little practice. The usual style in which first-class butter reaches the market is in boxes or chests constructed for the purpose, holding a hundred or more pounds, with an ice-box for ice in the centre—which is so necessary in summer to keep the prints in perfect shape. In all markets in the city are to be found regular dealers who handle this kind of butter and always obtain a much better price for it than those selling the common roll butter, much of which equals in taste and smell that with a gilt-edge brand on it. It is sold by the above-mentioned dealers on commission. In a neighborhood where there are no large makers of butter, several could combine and fill a box at regular intervals, each having their own monogram or brand, and if properly prepared,—with due regard to quality, neatness and cleanliness,—would soon become known and demand prices that would surprise the makers and which would please the taste of those purchasing. Get up a reputation for gilt-edge butter and you have secured a small fortune.

#### Whitewash and Petroleum.

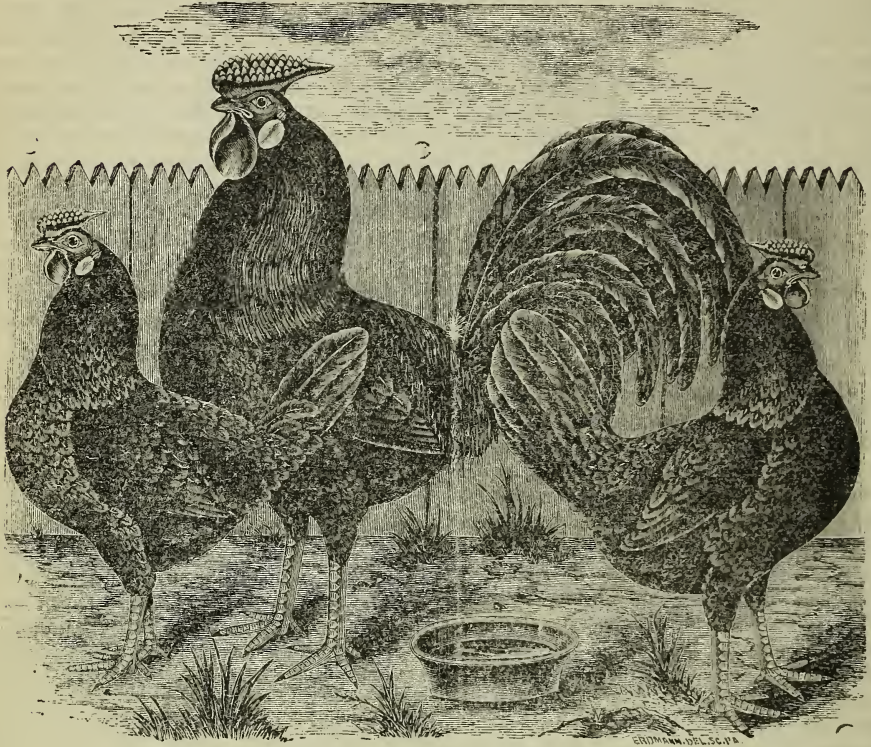
I have tried the crude oil you speak of to my entire satisfaction and disgust. On some places where it was used four years ago, one gets daubed whenever coming in contact with it. On soft, dry, clean wood it will answer a sort of purpose as it will strike in, leaving the mineral paint on the surface, to be washed off in due time. I think the oil, used alone on roofs, &c., might be of some service, but as a paint oil I cannot recommend it. There is no body in it to make it hold, and I have tried to give it one by dissolving rosin in it and making many other experiments, all to no purpose. There is no oxygen in it and it cannot be made to take it up as drying oils do, thereby converting the main body of the oil into a resinous which holds the paint to the wood. Whitewash, it is well known, passes to a carbonate of lime in a few days by absorbing carbonic acid from the air, and being soluble to a certain extent in water, is soon washed off when exposed to the rains. To prevent this a wash prepared as follows lasts much longer.

To half a bushel of good lime add enough water to slake and be about the consistence of thick syrup, and while hot add half a gallon of linseed oil and stir well. To this mixture add half a pound common glue dissolved in a gallon of boiling water. After letting it stand for a few hours thin with water to the proper consistence for applying and it is ready for use. Some parties recommend the addition of salt and others sulphate of zinc, but I cannot see any plausible theory to satisfy me that there is any advantage in their use. With the linseed oil an insoluble soap is formed (oleate of lime) and the glue forms an insoluble cement which protects the lime from the dissolving influence of the water. It is possible that tallow will answer the same purpose, as the resulting compound would be the same—oleate of lime—the glycerine of the fat being set free.  
A. P. S. Baltimore, Md.—Country Gentleman.

#### Brilliant Whitewash.

Take one-half bushel of nice unslaked lime, slake it with boiling water; cover it during the process to keep in the steam. Strain the liquid through a fine sieve or strainer, and add to it a peck of salt, previously well dissolved in warm water; three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste; one-half pound of powdered Spanish whiting, and one pound of clean glue, which has been previously dissolved by soaking it well, and then hang it over a slow fire in a small kettle within a larger one filled with water. Add five gallons of hot water to the mixture, stir it well, and let it stand for a few days covered from dust. *It should be put on hot,* and for this purpose it can be kept in a kettle on a portable furnace. It is said that about a pint of this mixture will cover a square yard upon the outside of a house, if properly applied. Fine or coarse brushes may be used, according to the neatness of the job required. It answers as well as oil paint for wood, brick, or stone, and is cheaper. It retains its brilliancy for many years. There is nothing of the kind that will compare with it, either for inside or outside walls. Buildings or fences covered with it will take a much longer time to burn than if they were painted with oil paint. Coloring matter may be put in and made of any shade desired. Spanish brown will make reddish pink when stirred in, more or less deep according to the quantity. A delicate tinge of this is very pretty for inside walls. Finely pulverized common clay, well mixed with Spanish brown, makes a reddish stone color; yellow ochre stirred in makes yellow wash, but chrome goes further, and makes a color generally esteemed prettier. It is difficult to make rules, because tastes are different; it would be best to try experiments on a shingle and let it dry. Green must not be mixed with lime; it destroys the color, and the color has an effect on the whitewash which makes it crack and peel.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

## THE POULTRY HOUSE.



### Black Hamburgs.

The accompanying illustration will give a good idea of the style and form of this breed of fowls. The drawing is true to life and was made from a trio of birds bred by the Rev. W. W. Sergeantson of England, a noted breeder of this variety, whose strains are most successful in carrying off the prizes at English shows. The birds were imported by J. E. Spence, of Braughty Ferry, Scotland. There are five varieties of Hamburgs—the Blacks, the silver spangled, silver pencilled, golden spangled and golden pencilled. The silver pencilled are the well known fowls called, years ago, “Crested,” and so celebrated as layers. The Golden Pencilled are still known in many localities, only under the old name of “Golden Pheasants,” and many stories are told us by their admirers, of their wondrous laying qualities. All varieties of Hamburgs are “everlasting layers,” and non-sitters, although rarely a hen will show some inclination to sit, but is easily broken. Many breeders claim that they will lay as high as 250

in a year, but this is more than can be expected of any hen, and it is a good one that will lay 150 eggs in a twelvemonth.

The Black Hamburgs, which are the subject of this sketch, lay the largest eggs, of choice quality, of any variety of this breed. They are also the largest fowls, being considerably larger than the colored varieties. They also have the decided advantage of being very hardy, while the others are more liable to disease. While the Black Hamburgs do not show that agreeable diversity of markings characteristic of the Pencilled and Spangled varieties, yet their greater excellence in the economical points just named, by odds, more than compensate. And they are by no means lacking in beauty. To our eyes, few fowls are more attractive, either in the show pen or in the breeding yard, than meritorious birds of this breed. Their color is a beautiful jet black, the cock being resplendent with lovely iridescent colors, especially on his hackle. In shape they are stylish and well

formed. They have beautiful rose combs, bright red in color, as are also their wattles, contrasting beautifully with their pure white ear lobes, which stand out in bold relief.

One word about the ear lobes and we are done. Many Black Hamburgs at our exhibitions, show white in their face, an enormous large ear lobe and a Spanish shape and style of body, all of which unmistakably bespeak a cross with the Black Spanish which must be strongly opposed by breeders.

W ATLEE BUREE.

Philadelphia.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### Golden Spangled Hamburgs.

There are three varieties of Hamburgs, the black, the silver spangled, and the golden spangled.

The black are very handsome, and usually larger than the other varieties, but the increase in size is often due to mixture with black spanish fowls which resemble the black hamburgs in many points. They are good layers and very good for table use. The silver spangled are very beautiful, and great favorites, fine layers and very excellent for table use, but smaller than the other varieties. The golden spangled, we will describe minutely, beginning at the head and ending with the feet. The cock's beak should be dark horn-color well shaped and not over long, face red and rich in color, eyes bright red, sparkling, with cheerful and courageous expression, comb bright red, broad in front, and centre free from hollow, full of distinctly defined points, ending in a long point slightly turned upward, ear lobes white, nearly round, nicely and closely joined to the head and not pendent or loose; head of medium size, full, but neither too short nor long. Neck carried high, and gracefully shaped, especially near the head; neck hackles rich golden bay, each feather striped down the centre with rich black; back deep bay, approaching maroon, with greenish black spots on each feather, these spots becoming more elongated down the back till on the saddle they become stripes, down the centre of the feathers; breast full, but not prominent, feathers golden bay, each distinctly spangled with a rich black moon, the spangling very uniform, not overlapping but both black and bay distinctly defined—breast spangled from the throat to the thighs, the spangling becoming bolder as it goes downward; an undefined mingling of the bay and black on the breast is objectionable, but a solid black breast is now out of the question, and condemns the fowl at once; wing full,

long, strongly feathered, indicating power of flight. The bars on wing double, bold and regular, the stepping on the wings caused by the black crescentic spots on the ends of the secondaries should be distinct—the inner webs of both primaries and secondaries should be black, and the outer webs deep golden bay, the wing bow above the bars should be rich maroon, and to be perfect, each feather spotted with black, but this is rarely the case, still the bars should be very rich maroon, and in absence of the spots, the ends of the feathers should be dark, approaching black, the tail should be black, very rich in green gloss, very full and long, carried well up, with a slight inclination forward at the top—the tail coverts should be bay with black stripes until approaching the longer tail feathers large black spots are found at the end of the feathers. The legs well shaped, medium size and length, and dark slaty blue in color, feet neatly shaped, with toes moderately long, same color as legs, and with nails horn-color, as near as possible corresponding with beak, but usually a little lighter in color. Average height 17 to 18 inches, average weight  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 5 pounds.

THE HEN.—Beak, face, eyes, comb, legs, &c, resembling the cock; ground color, rich golden bay, with neck hackles same color, each feather striped down the centre with greenish black; breast from throat to thighs should have each feather boldly spangled with a black moon, tail black, with coverts spangled, shoulders and bows of the wing above the bars richly spangled, the bars of the wing should show two bold, regular lines of spangling; this is very important, and absence of it mars very much the beauty of the marking. Weight,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to four pounds; height, 14 to 16 inches.

The golden spangled Hamburg when approximating this standard is very beautiful and very valuable—as eggs producers they are excelled by no breed of fowls, as table fowls they are excellent and very much resembling the pheasant in quality of flesh. Some give them the high average of 240 eggs yearly, but we think the forty might be left off, and give us a more accurate average. The hens are said to be non-sitters, but this is to a certain extent a mistake, for when properly treated and encouraged to do so, they will sit, and if not disturbed, keep the nest well; they are excellent mothers, and take good care of their young. The cock is courageous and takes good care of his family—as a valuable farm fowl there is none superior to the “Golden Spangled Hamburg,” as they transmit their laying qualities to many other breeds, especially to the game breeds, and crosses on the games are said to be almost as good layers, and excellent sitters, and mothers. One pair of

Hamburgs, will in one season give a farmer a large stock of cross breeds, and we would advise a trial of them. The most beautiful pair of G. S. Hamburgs we know of are owned by Mr. W. H. Wight, of Baltimore. This pair "*Lord Baltimore and Lady Agnes*," have taken first and special premiums at several shows, and the cock, "*Lord Baltimore*" has made the very high score of 97 points!

I hope that some of your readers may think it to their interest, to order pairs of these beautiful and excellent fowls—or order cockerels for the purpose of crossing their stock of poultry.  
Jan. 10, 1873.

W. S. TEMPLE,  
47 S. Howard Street.

[The fowls of Mr. Wight alluded to by our correspondent are advertised in our columns of this number. We probably will soon give our readers a picture of his premium pair alluded to above.—  
EDS. MD. FAR.]

## LADIES DEPARTMENT.

### "AT THE GATE."

She waited at the garden gate  
That open'd on the shady lane;  
She waited, though the hour was late,  
And listen'd wistfully;—what then?

She look'd up to the evening skies  
With quiet smile, for there again  
She saw the little star arise  
She knew so well, and lov'd. What then?

"O, little star so bright!" said she,  
"The first that's shone to-night, I ken,  
Give me my wish, whate'er it be,  
And give it soon," she said. What then?

She turn'd again, and still she smil'd,  
As softly through the distant glen  
A carol'd song the way beguil'd.  
And list'ning still she stood. What then?

And nearer still, and yet more near,  
Her hero comes—her prince of men;  
While, one by one, fresh stars appear  
And twinkle gaily; and—what then?

Then quickly o'er the grassy plain  
He came, from out the lonely glen,  
Along the silent star-lit lane;  
And through the garden gate. What then?

And still she stood with quiet smile,  
Then, blushing, bent her brow in vain;  
A strong arm held her fast, the while  
He rais'd her face to his.—What then?

STANNO.

## ORNAMENTAL DEVICES.

Let me tell my sisters what is very pretty, for every lady says so. Go to a first-class grocery store, buy one of Blackwell's *salt jars*, and pick for a smooth one; for pictures get two gilded Japanese figures, nearly as high as the jar, some Chinese figures to place on the opposite sides, gilded parrots for the cover; around edge of cover a strip of black paper with a gilded head in center; then fill in spaces with frogs, bugs, fishes, birds, and small things; all these are brighter without gildings after varnishing; use gum tragacanth to fasten the pictures to the jar, and Domar varnish. I am sure your lady readers will be rewarded for their labor in the pretty results.

Another pretty device, for children, is an illuminated *muslin book*, with alternate leaves of pink and black muslin, the outside of drilling; then pink the edges and sew the leaves together in the middle of the book and tie with blue ribbon; the cover to be double; put colored pictures on the black pages and your black pictures on the pink pages, a bright border on the cover, some bold bright figures in the centre, and a rich dark in the front; Goddess of Liberty or other emphatic object looks well on the back. The results will please the maker and amuse the children.

FLORA.

[We take the above from the *Floral and Fruit Magazine* just started in Washington, by our friend Col. D. S. Curtiss. It is part of a communication to that journal, from the graceful and instructive "*Flora*," our whilom correspondent, whose contributions to the Ladies Department of the MARYLAND FARMER were so welcome to us and to our readers. We hope that she again, sometimes will cheer us with the pleasant effusions of her pen, and not be entirely won by the fruits and flowers that the Col. will furnish monthly; but it was ever thus, with woman;

"—Variable as the shade  
By the light, quivering aspen made—"

GULLIVER'S HUNTING.—Where is Munchausen, Gulliver? Here, re-vamped.

The *Canadian Farmer* tells a nice story of a man named Langley, who went to St. Mary's bay geese hunting. Seeing a moose on the opposite shore, he fired, and at the same moment, a porpoise leaped from the water, and the bullet killed both it and the moose. The porpoise floated to the shore, and the hunter used it as a raft to paddle across to the moose. There he found that the bullet, after killing moose, had gone into a hollow tree, in which was a store of wild honey, which was flowing through the hole made by the bullet. Reaching for what he thought was a stick, to plug up the hole, he caught a rabbit by the leg. Rather startled, he threw it violently from him, and struck a covey of eighteen partridges, killing them all.

## Chats with the Ladies for February.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

## The Snow—Not "The Beautiful Snow."

Lightly and merrily,  
Swiftly and steadily,  
Down comes the snow shower all the day long,  
Bright eyes have looked for it,  
Young hearts have sighed for it;  
Now it is welcomed with laughter and song.

Earnestly watching it,  
Eagerly catching it,  
Fair little faces and hands reach forth;  
Child and youth can be  
In the white mystery,  
Radiant visions of frolic and mirth.

Traversing fields of space,  
Running a joyous race,  
Beautiful flake after flake fluttering down;  
Each one a perfect flower,  
Nurtured in starry bower,  
Each like a gem from an angel's bright crown.

Whiter and whiter still  
Grows every roof and sill.  
Whiter the domes late so grim and brown—  
Strange is the spectacle,  
Changed as by miracle,  
Into a fairy land seems all the town.

Lo! upon the leafless trees,  
Waved by wintry breeze.  
Phantoms of summer's dead garlands appear,  
Twining and clinging there,  
Placidly smiling here,  
Waking soft dreams of a season more dear.

Now, at the twilight hour,  
Ceases the snowy shower,  
Listen! already the tuneful bells chime!  
Soon will the rich and gay  
Speed on their merry way,  
Thankful and glad for the carnival time.

But as the night comes down  
Cold over all the town,  
Many a heart sinks with terror and woe;  
Many a heavy sigh,  
Many a tearful eye,  
Greets the chill prospect of darkness and snow.

Ye who in happy homes  
Smile when the snow shower comes.  
Think of the sad ones who weep at its fall,  
Think, think how pitiful,  
An object so beautiful,  
Should, like a spectre, the needy appal.

Pray for these hapless ones;  
Give to these suffering ones;  
Dry the sad tear drops that freeze as they flow.  
Mercy and charity  
Smooth life's disparity;  
Warm poor hearts chilled by winter and snow.

I give the whole of the above beautiful little poem, although in former chats I quoted the two last stanzas, the most practical of them all. During the first snow storm of this year, I was looking over an old scrap book, and seeing these lines I thought it would be well to repeat them to my lady friends, and the scrap book suggested to me that I would urge our young friends, especially, to set to work at once, and make a scrap book. I greatly regret that I have paid so little attention to this source of pleasure and profit, no one but those who

have regularly, for years, kept scrap books, can dream of the interest and useful information they afford, if carefully arranged, especially after the lapse of a few years. There are many newspapers, not usually filed or bound, which come in the way of every one, that contain gems of poetry, obituaries of friends, marriages, notices of remarkable men and women, and events, uncommon weather, terrible accidents and other notable facts that would otherwise be forgotten, at least as to their dates and details. Besides these, there are hundreds of items worth preserving, such as receipts, tables, etc.

An old lady in Montgomery county, Md., has for, I believe, half a century, kept assiduously a scrap book and diary, well arranged, either alphabetically or in order of subjects, or by dates, and this agreeable work has accumulated into many large volumes, which form not only an encyclopedia of facts and valuable knowledge, but an inexhaustible source of pleasure to herself and intimate friends. These scrap books contain the elements for novels, information for the historian, and is a store-house for the chronologist and collectors of the curious, the marvellous and oft times long forgotten facts. Some day a Prescott or a D'Israeli, will look on them as a rich mine, from which to draw facts and dates, to settle some disputed historical point, or to swell the collection of "Curiosities of Literature." I verily consider them of great value in even a pecuniary way. I sincerely wish that this venerable and highly cultured lady would send a few selections from her collections, to brighten and add to the useful knowledge of the Ladies' Department of the Maryland Farmer. Any old ledger or blank book, or Patent Office report, by cutting out every other leaf would answer for a scrap book as well as the best boundless, new book. Ike Marvel, I think it is, has invented a nice book, properly arranged or lettered, and at a low price, to be had of most booksellers. A few minutes a day employed with the use of gum arabic and scissors will soon accumulate a wonderful amount of pleasant reading and important facts. If daily attention to this is too troublesome, you have only to have an envelope or small box to put in the clippings until some leisure moment comes, when they can be transferred to the book.

It is proper that you should now be reading the catalogues of flower seeds and plants, making a careful selection of what you want for Spring sowing and planting, and studying the habits and character of each plant or flower you wish to grow that you may sow plant and cultivate in the most judicious manner to give satisfaction to yourself and delight to your friends the coming summer. These long evenings will afford good opportunities for the study of Botany, which, even a smattering of will give you great satisfaction and wondrously, win you to further progress in its mysterious and its.

wonderful developments. The study of nature and an intimacy with the varied forms of life and the organism of plants, will refine the mind and elevate the soul.



CHINESE PRIMROSE.

(From a Photograph)

a new character, with a nice illustration;—

#### SWEET ALYSSUM.

A. H. Kopley of Effingham, Ill., grew a Sweet Alyssum plant in the house last winter in a hanging basket that held not less than two quarts of earth, and it was such a beautiful object, so large



and fragrant, and attracted so much attention, that photographs were taken of the plant, and from one of these our engraving was made. Young plants can be taken from the garden and potted any time during the autumn, or may be grown from seed at any time in the house.—*Vicks Illustrated Magazine*, Rochester, N. Y.

I have also been favored by Messrs. Thorburn & Co., New York, with the following description and electrotype of a beautiful plant, well worthy the cultivation by all who like a garden gay with flowers.

#### LIATRIS PYCNOSTACHYA.

[KANSAS GAY FEATHER.]

This plant, although long known to botanists, has not been brought into cultivation until recently. Planted in rows in the garden or on the lawn the effect produced is beautiful in the extreme. If sown in the Fall, the plants bloom the next year, but the best success follows when sown in the Spring; and the plants have a season's growth before flowering next year. The roots are somewhat bulbous and when once had will bloom well for many years. There are some twenty species of North American *Liatris*, but this is, perhaps, the handsomest of the whole. The flowers are rosy purple; spike about three feet long, as shown in the engraving. They commence to flower at the top of the spike, and the blooming progresses downwards. In the illustration the lower blossoms have yet to open.

Now let me say a word about cookery. During the Christmas holidays I was made glad by receiving from an accomplished lady of Baltimore, a big piece of Black Cake "made and baked by herself." It looked to me what was called fruit cake, when I was a boy. On giving it a long and critical test, I thought it the best I ever ate, and begged for the recipe, even thoughtful of the interest of my gentle readers. Who will try it, and give P.P. the chance of deciding on the merits of their skill?

RECIPE FOR BLACK CAKE.—1 lb. Butter, creamed; 1 lb. flour; 1 lb. Demerara sugar; 10 eggs; 2 lbs. currants; 2 lbs. raisins; 1 lb. citron. Flavor with 1½ wineglass each of brandy, wine and rosewater, 2 teaspoons each of ground mace and cinnamon, 1 teaspoon ground cloves and grate 1 whole nutmeg,



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It is not necessary to secure the subscribers all at one time, for instance:—If any one wants to get the wagon we offer for 100 new subscribers, he can send the names in any number he secures, and we will allow him a whole year to finish his club. If at the end of the year he fails to secure the full number, he is still entitled to the article named opposite the number he does send

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